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Washington Highlights

America's petroleum reserves are fully capable of satisfying all demands in the foreseeable future. Moreover, there is now available a reserve production capacity of 700,000 barrels a day to meet any national emergency. This was the conclusion drawn by the National Petroleum Council's special committee on crude petroleum reserve capacity. The committee is headed by L. F. McCollum, president of Continental Oil Company. It warned that the development of new oil resources and maintenance of the industry's reserve production capacity would be jeopardized seriously by any change in the provisions of the Federal tax laws providing for depletion of mineral resources. "Any change which would increase tax burdens on the production of petroleum above the present level would automatically reduce the incentive for development and make it that much harder to create reserve productive capacity," a committee report said. "The provisions in the Federal income tax laws allowing for percentage depletion and the charge of intangible development costs as expense have been worked out by Congress over a period of years as equitable and economical means of providing the necessary incentive for petroleum development that is indispensable to national welfare and security. Disturbance of such tax provisions would be a serious blow to the progress now being made in creating reserve productive capacity." Commenting on the percentage depletion, the Washington office of the Independent Petroleum Association of America points out the extent to which the President's advisers have misinformed him. The association said it is illustrated by the assertion that the depletion provision now in effect was enacted in order to stimulate oil production for the first world war. However, the association explained, the percentage depletion allowance was not instituted until 1926, eight years after the end of the war.

The Senate has confirmed President Truman's nomination of Karl R. Bendetsen, Alameda, California, lawyer to be assistant secretary of Army.

The British Government was accused of "an act of hostility" by Senator Connally, Democrat of Texas, in planning to widen an embargo of dollar oil imports to the entire British commonwealth. Connally is chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He declared such an action by the British "is most remarkable when the United States has made and is making stupendous gifts to Britain to build her economy." A National Petroleum Council report said that continuation of the British policies could force the American petroleum industry to surrender international oil trade to Britain. The council explained that the dollar market could not possibly absorb enough imports to satisfy concession obligations of American-owned foreign concessions.

Representative Norris Poulson, California Republican, has given up prior plans to leave Congress and will be a candidate for election to the House next November.

Senator Vandenberg, Republican of Michigan, has resigned from the Congressional Atomic Committee. Senator Bricker, Ohio Republican, was named to succeed him.

E. H. Fallin, Los Angeles, has joined the Washington staff of the National Petroleum Association. Fallin in recent years has maintained business quarters and residence in Los Angeles.

Secretary of the Interior Oscar L. Chapman evidently had no comment to make on the tidelands question on his recent tour of the Los Angeles-Long Beach Harbor area, according to information received here. Chapman disclosed that he last viewed the harbor 10 years ago.

Ohio Republican Senator Taft has called for a $4,000,000,000 slash in President Truman's budget. His action was in line with plans of the GOP to make economy a key issue in party policy.

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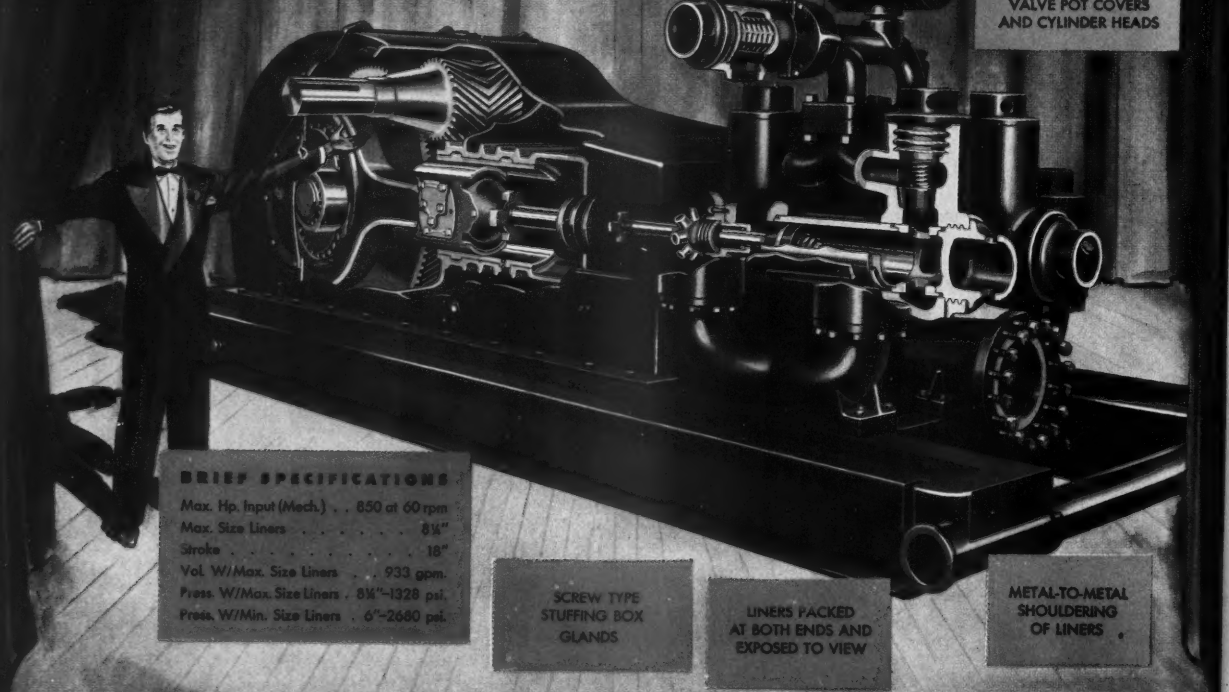

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NEW BULLETIN ★ Bulletin F-170 describes and illustrates the new Emsco D-850 Slush Pump. Your letterhead request will receive prompt attention.

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New Exploration Technique Is Disclosed

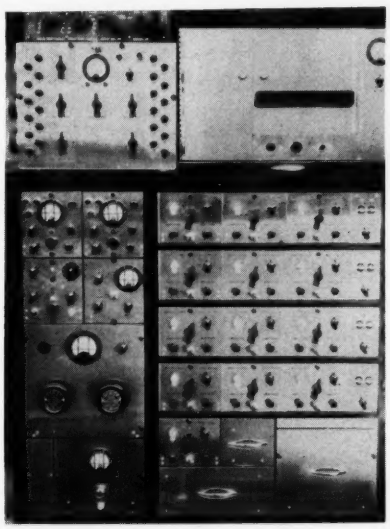
At the recent meeting of the Pacific Coast Section of the Society of Exploration Geophysicists, it was disclosed in a paper prepared by Mr. Carl H. Savit of Western Geophysical Company that Western has developed an improved reflection seismic technique for use in difficult areas. The technique is designed to produce additional and more complete seismic data at a small additional cost in areas where additional information is critically necessary.

Need for Sharper Results

Most practicing geophysicists are familiar with localities in which the present-day reflection seismic technique has failed to produce usable results. For example, some areas are characterized by low relief in the geologic section, and although reflection quality may be fair to good, reflection continuity is not quite what it should be so that small features, pinch-outs, or anticlines of low relief are easily lost. Other areas are characterized by steep dip but insufficient reflections to enable the geophysicist to follow any formation for more than a few hundred feet. In both types of cases, it can be seen that a small increase in the number of reflections obtained per hole could easily make available to the geologists a usable picture of the geologic section where otherwise cross-sections might well have to be constructed in large part by guesswork.

Early Developments

In his paper, Mr. Savit described early work in the Raisin City, California field, for which Western's new technique was devised and in which the methods described were first given extensive field trials. In 1942, the Tide Water Associated, Seaboard, and Union Oil Companies were jointly exploring the Raisin City Area, using a Western crew, the Party Chief of which was Mr. Dupree McGrady. The Raisin City Area is one of those areas characterized by low relief in the sub-surface strata and by the unusual circumstances described by Mr. John Sloat in Volume I of Geophysical Case Histories in that the dip reversal characterizing the producing structure was present only in a few hundred feet of section, the strata both above and below being monoclinal. Reflection continuity in this area was sufficiently poor that, in spite of the large number of reflections obtainable, a detailed subsurface picture could not be made.



Western instrument rack showing early model, two control group selector switch in upper left corner.

In order to obtain a few more reflections at each shot point, it was decided that every spread should be shot from two different shot holes, one on each side of the spread, giving the effect of using two parallel pro file lines. The reflections from both shot holes were, of course, combined in the final presentation. Enough additional reflections were obtained by this process to enable the geologists to follow the important strata accurately over the entire prospect.

The techniques of dualizing profiles by the duplication of shot holes and later of seismometer cables was a direct outgrowth of Western's efforts to adapt and extend its methods to meet increasing demands of the oil industry for powerful tools and more detailed information in the continuing and intensive search for new petroleum reserves. The 1942 Raisin City work afforded the opportunity for the practical realization of profile dualization by reason of the urgent necessity for additional and improved information. Although these techniques had been occasionally used in a few difficult places, notably as early as 1939 by a Western crew under Mr. V. E. Prestine, it was first in the 1942 work that spread dualization was applied routinely to an entire prospect and thus proved its practical worth. It was the imagination and impetus of a small group of well-know geophysicists, representing progressive, research-minded companies, which brought about the large scale practical trial of this technique. Among this pioneering group were found such well-known men as Mr. John Sloat, Mr. W. D. Cortright, and Mr. L. S. Chambers, who were respectively in charge of the Raisin City geophysical work for Union, Tide Water Associated, and Seaboard Oil Companies, and Mr. Dean Walling, who supervised the work for Western.

Instrumentation Limitations

It was, of course, realized at this early time that substantially the same results could most probably have been obtained by using parallel spreads and a single shot hole as had been obtained by using a single spread and two shot holes. It was, indeed, clear that this second method would also have had the advantage of reducing the number of shot holes and shots and hence of reducing the cost per profile of the profile dualizing process. Unfortunately, the use of parallel spreads would have meant at that time that each spread would have been limited to six seismometer groups rather than the conventional twelve, since at that time cables were designed for single spreads of twelve seismometer groups and that furthermore the ability to record a dual spread interchangeably with a single spread would have required suitable switching arrangements. A certain amount of time was required to bring suitable cables and switching arrangements into the field.

In the 1942 work in Raisin City, it was necessity which dictated the two-hole one-spread shooting arrangement. Later work in Raisin City and other areas indicated the necessity for the special cables and

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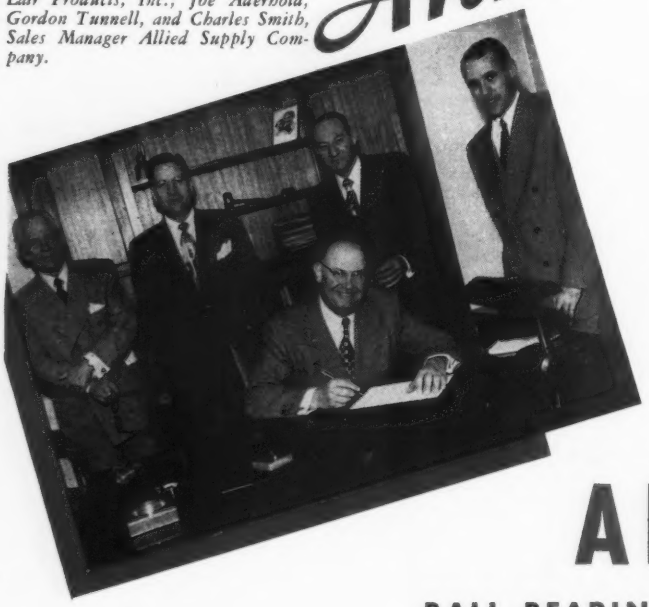
Announces

Left to Right: Gil Nesheim, Allied Supply Co.; Lee J. Laird, V. P. Gil-Lair Products, Inc.; Joe Aderhold, Gordon Tunnell, and Charles Smith, Sales Manager Allied Supply Company.



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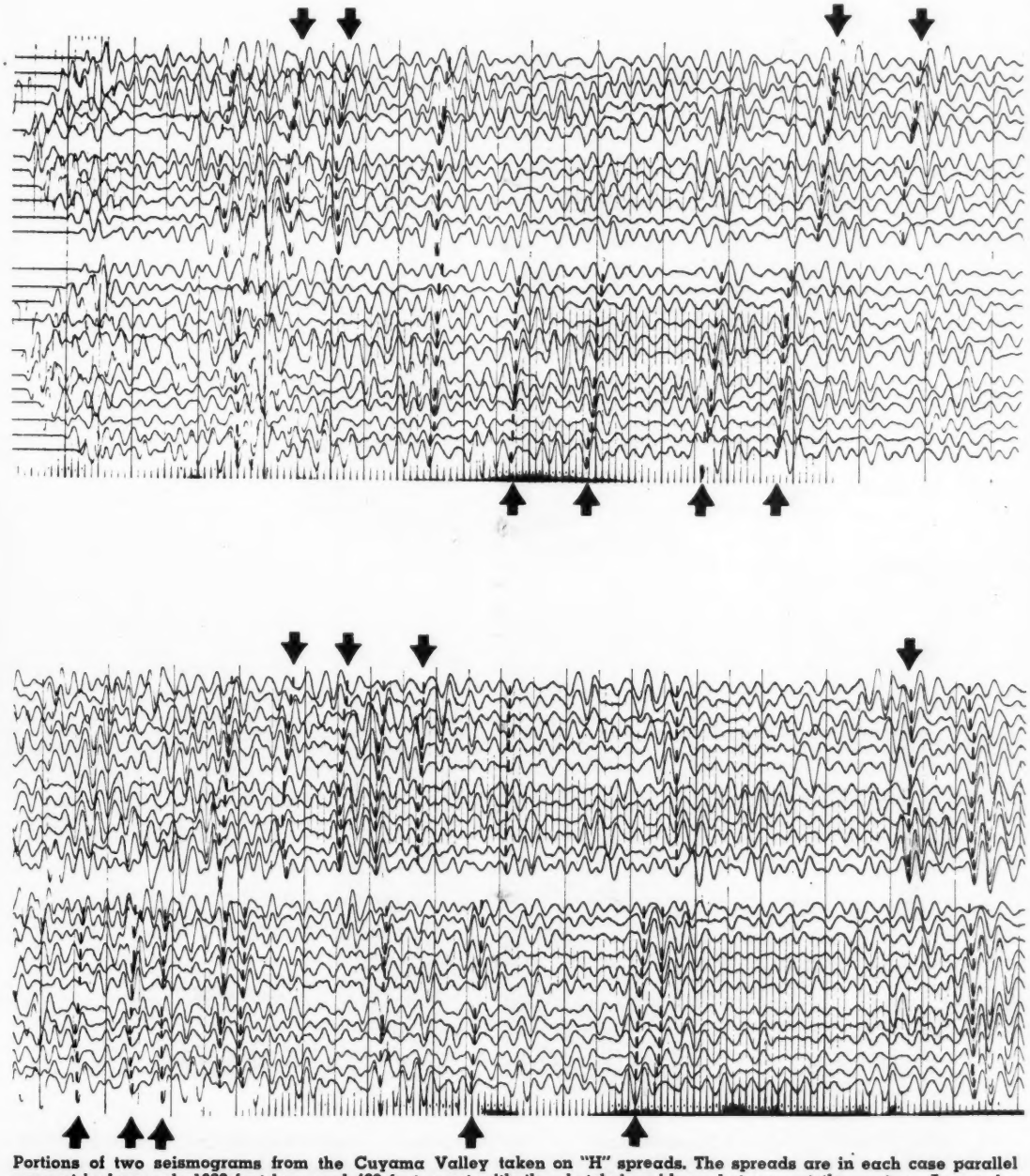
switches so that development work went on apace. Before long, one of the Western trucks was equipped with a pair of twelve-group cables and a suitable switch box. Records were taken using the parallel-spread single-hole layout, which is now known as the "H" spread. The results of the "H" spread produced more data than did the conventional spread arrangements. All Western recording trucks have now been equipped with the proper cables and instruments for utilizing the "H" spread as required.

Development of the "H" Spread

Detailing work and work on the possible extension toward Kerman of the Raisin City field in 1947 was done by another Western crew using the "H" spread almost exclusively. In this work, which was done entirely for the Tide Water Associated Oil Company, a considerable number of experiments and innovations were first attempted. Among other things, extensive work was done in attempting to determine the effect of variation of the distance between the parallel cables of the "H" spread. Distances varying from a maximum of 600 feet to a minimum of 10 feet were used in making these shots. The results were quite striking; the additional cable produced additional reflections



Portions of two seismograms from the Cuyama Valley taken on "H" spreads. The spreads are in each case parallel symmetrical spreads 1300 feet long and 400 feet apart with the shot hole midway between at the center. Arrows indicate reflections which are much stronger on one side than on the other.

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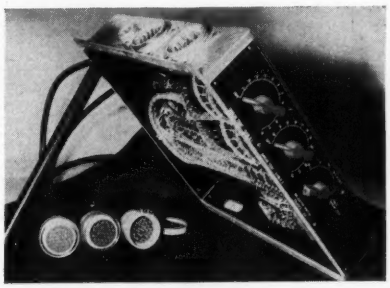
in all types of situations from the 600-foot separation down to and including the 10-foot separation of cables. Separations of the order of 200 feet or more produced the best results; the yield of additional reflections decreasing with a decrease of separation; sporadically, however, the 10-foot separation yielded as striking results as any. An additional innovation consisted of combining electrically the outputs of the corresponding seismometer groups on the opposite legs of the "H" and recording the results as a single profile using dual recording with two different filter circuits. The circuit used to accomplish this last process has been designated as the "D2H" circuit, the "D" indicating the dual recording, the "2" indicating the two groups per trace, and the "H" indicating the "H" spread. Using the same nomenclature, the ordinary simple recording of the "H"" spread is designated "S1H." The "D2H" records were found to produce reflections additional to the ones found from the two legs of the "H" so that when "H" spreads were being shot, it became customary to make both an "S1H" and a "D2H" recording for each station at which two or more shots could be fired. The complete program of "S1H" and "D2H" recordings in many cases effectively doubled the number of reflections obtainable.

Surprisingly enough, a particular reflecting horizon might sometimes be picked up from one side of the "H" only at one station, from the other side only at the next station, and from a "D2H" record only at still another station on the same line.

A moment's thought will give some notion of the essential complexity of a unitized switching system which would be necessary to enable the operator to record the ordinary modes of spread arrangements interchangeably with both the "S1H" and "D2H" arrangements for two 12-group cables. The development of a practical system of cables, switches, plugs, and so forth, was carried on in Western's Los Angeles Laboratories under the direction of Mr. David Sheffet.

The current model of Western recording truck accomplishes this switching by means of a single rotary switch by which the observer can choose "S1H," "D2H," or three other arrangements, as well as a cable continuity test by a turn of the switch. The switch which accomplishes this is a specially constructed 38-deck six-position rotary switch.



Group selector switch box which enables Observer to select one of "S1", "D1", "D2", "S1H", "D2H" circuits or a continuity test with a single setting of the one switch.

Recent Applications

The next extensive field trials of the "H" spread technique took place, and are taking place, in the Cuyama Valley, California, where Western crews working for Richfield Oil Corporation, under the immediate supervision of Messrs. T. P. Ellsworth and J. W. Mathews, for Richfield, and Dean Walling and John Adams for Western, are detailing the bulk of the Valley. The Cuyama Valley is characterized by relatively poor seismic data. In previous exploration of the valley without the "H" spread technique it had been well-nigh impossible to construct even moderately reliable contour maps of the substrata. In order to map Cuyama effectively, it was decided that "H" spreads should be used throughout. The terrain in the Cuyama Valley is extremely varied and quite often is the principle determinant of line and spread layout arrangements. Because of the terrain and other exigencies of the exploration program, work in the Cuyama proceeded, using all possible variations of the "H" spread technique, including among others, "H" spreads in which both cables were on the same side of the shot hole, "H" spreads which consisted of pairs of either symmetrical or nonsymmetrical parallel spreads and even "H" spreads in which the legs of the "H" were of different lengths. This last arrangement, although precluding the use of the "D2H" circuit, offers the advantage of the simultaneous use of long spreads for continuous profiling together with short spreads for picking up steep dip which might not appear on the longer spreads. In the interests of rapid coverage of large areas, resort has even been had to the simultaneous use of two recording trucks so that 2,000 ft. and 800 ft. symmetrical spreads may be used for each station. In some particularly bad sections of the Cuyama Valley, it was found necessary to shoot quadruple profiles at each station using "H" spreads with two shot holes at each station.

Western Supervisor, John Adams (center) examining Cuyama Valley seismograms. With him are Robert Wells of Richfield (left) and Curtis Long, Western Observer (right).

By these and other expedients, it was found possible to obtain reasonably good cross-sections in all parts of the Cuyama Valley, in which it was felt that the expenditure of the requisite time and effort could be justified.

Richfield's intensive seismic exploration of the Cuyama exclusively by means of the "H" spread technique culminated in the location of Homan 81-35, the discovery well of the South Cuyama Field. The South Cuyama Field, it will be recalled, was brought in in May of 1949, the discovery well coming in for an initial production of 5088 bbls. per day of 34° gravity oil from 201 feet of the Diblee Zone or Painted Rock Sand.

Data from the Homan 81-35 well checked depths of critical beds in the seismic picture so closely that no changes were necessary in the maps, a remarkable achievement in the highly faulted, steeply dipping, complex stratigraphy of the Cuyama Valley. Later wells in the South Cuyama field have confirmed the

(Continued on Page 24)

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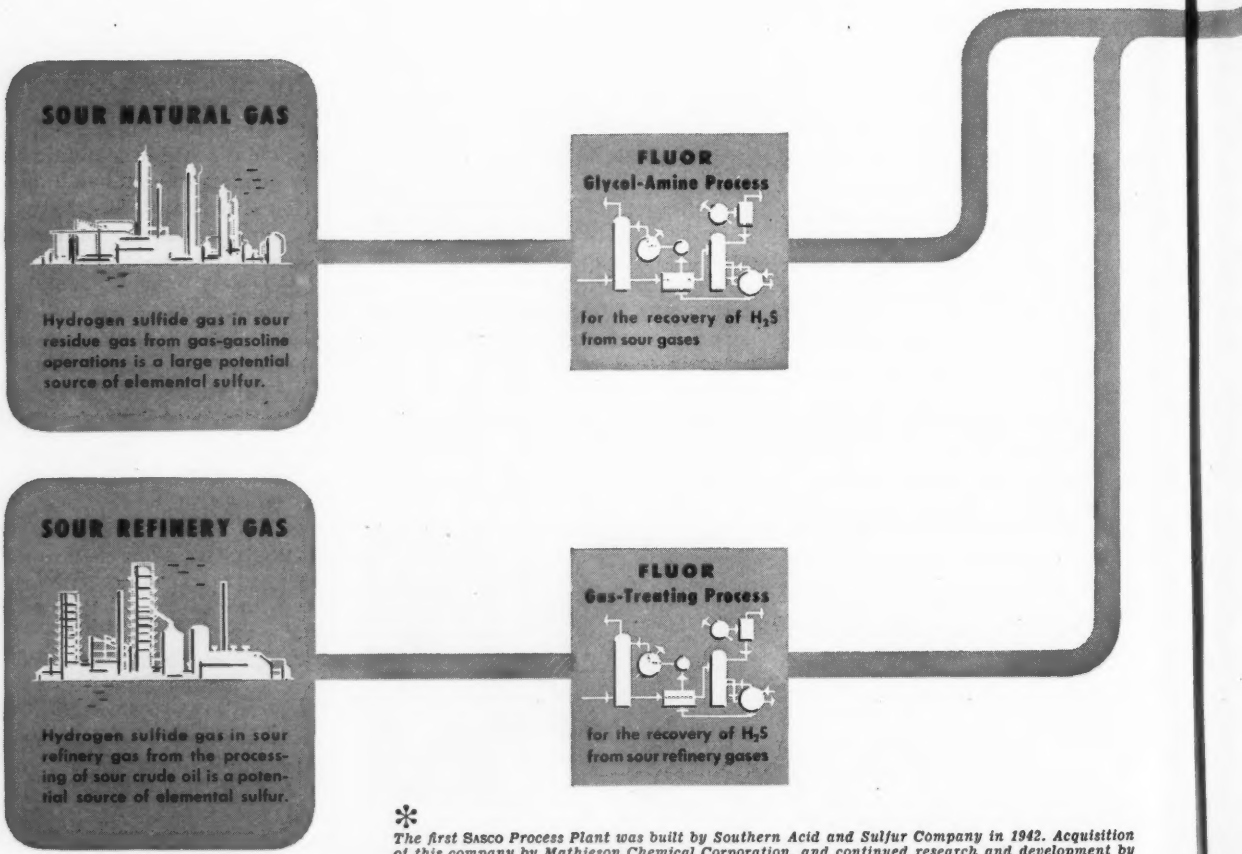
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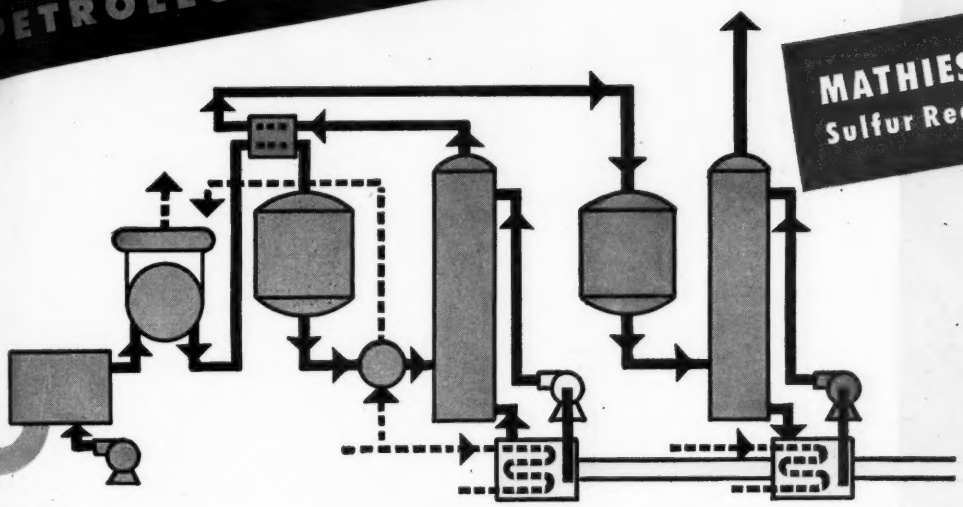

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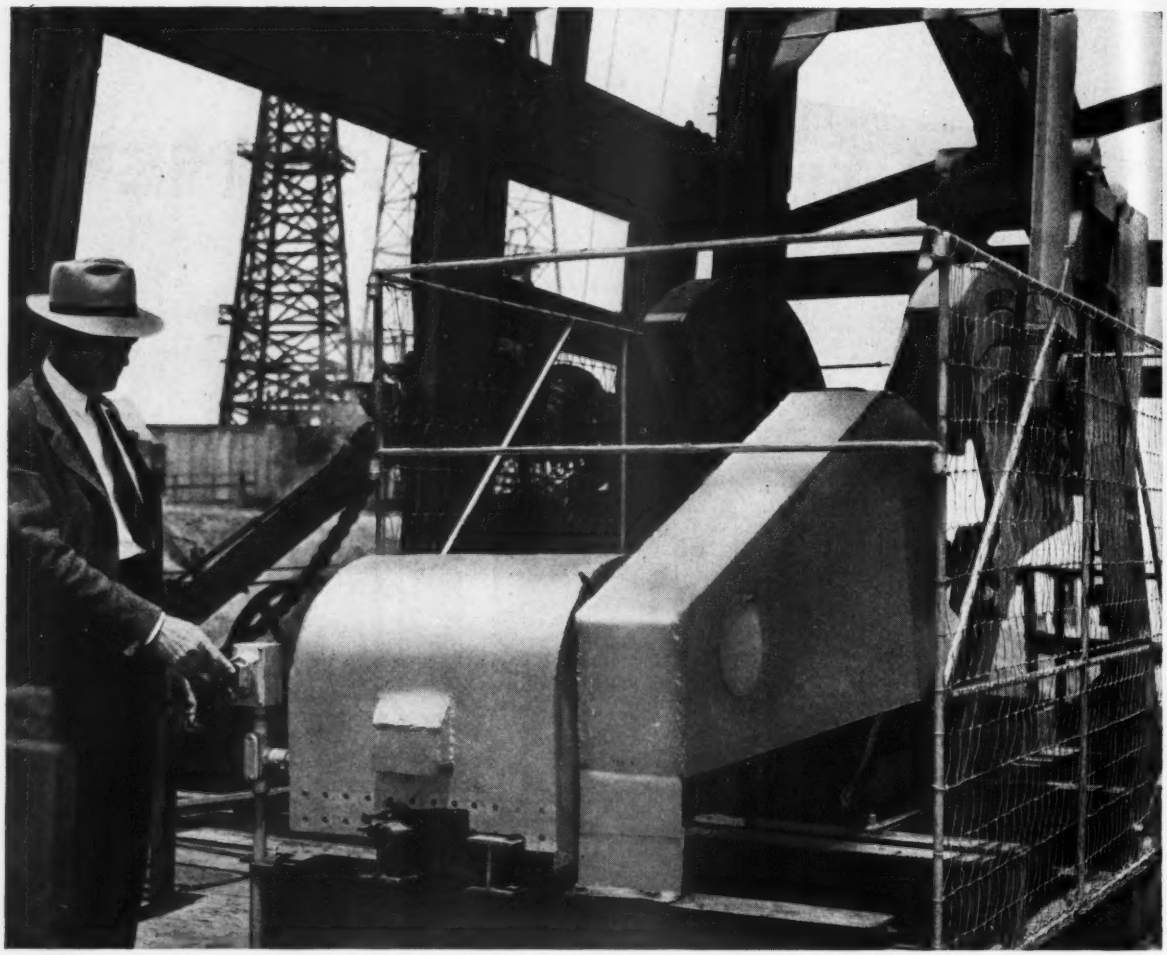

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Kern County OIL NEWS

"DON'T LET 'EM SCARE YOU' " . . . this was the 1950 password as it were, from many substantial sources as 2nd half of February approached.

In Kern County, first of all, the demand is going to be as is—"just the same".

BARNEY BARNARD formerly of Conservation Committee, now with Richfield believes things in general are not relative. Said he, "times are typical . . . we expect better . . . have to pay more . . . luxury before was $1.50 for a coffee maker . . . now it's $35.00 in order to make a better cup of coffee than your neighbor.

FRED SEALE recently of Bender Oil Company . . . engaged in manufacturing . . . until the shutdown December first . . . indicates that many an oilwig is actually drumming up state control . . . "better state than national" . . . according to some state's rights proponents.

KERN COUNTY enjoys a better position than many other USA counties involved with "hot oil" and what have you . . . according to Barney Barnard.

INDEPENDENT OILWIGS are now more active than ever in wayside points in and around Cuyama, so . . . say . . . many . . . of the . . . armchair drillingwigs.

TAX COLLECTORS and spenders of the same are readying themselves for drastic reductions in budgets and public spending in Kern County.

BIG WORRY IS will oilfolks and their kinfolk employees be less demanding in their services from county government which is in so much progressive catagory, be satisfied with steps backward. Civilization as we have said so many times can never take a step backward.

STAN BECK the well known Kern Paleontologist walks just the same out at Stockdales' glorious golf course as he does around the laboratory. If he could handle the hooks like he does the bugs all would be oilright. One thing in his favor. . . . his garden garb is a combination suit . . . suitable for the lawn at home and the lawn at the country club.

FRANK HORNKOHL of his own laboratory is busy with the "demands" which on his order book have not showed signs of any recession.

COLONEL FRITSCHE OF Kern County's Own National Guard was the event chairman during National Guard Week which closed a fortnight ago. County Assessor JOSH HANKS for whom Al does his best on mineral values and oil assessments reports that he is happy NG week began January 23, instead of March first. Al did an outstanding job and Hanks thinks it might even help the assessments since many an oilwig's son was an applicant to something other than taxes.

INCIDENTALLY what has become of the movement to inventory salvage truckers who do not have to stop for inspection before leaving Kern County. Many a piece of equipment is often mixed up with "junk" which was not just exactly nailed down to the permit until after the goods were loaded. Sometimes the "HAULERS" get more than they bargained for.

"THERE OUGHT TO BE A LARW" . . . would be a good political campaign slogan providing the cost of policing did not take too much taxes.

KERN OILWIGS AND WAS-

API MEETING FEATURED CUYAMA VALLEY with discussion from Richfield's MASON HILL (center) who is credited with resourcefulness in many attempts to prove up the area. He described the geological setting. CHESTER DAVIS (right), production engineer for Richfield, presented the "Development of Cuyama Oil Fields." The meeting before some 300 persons was presided over by JOSEPH SHEA, the 1950 chairman, who is also with Richfield as chief petroleum engineer.

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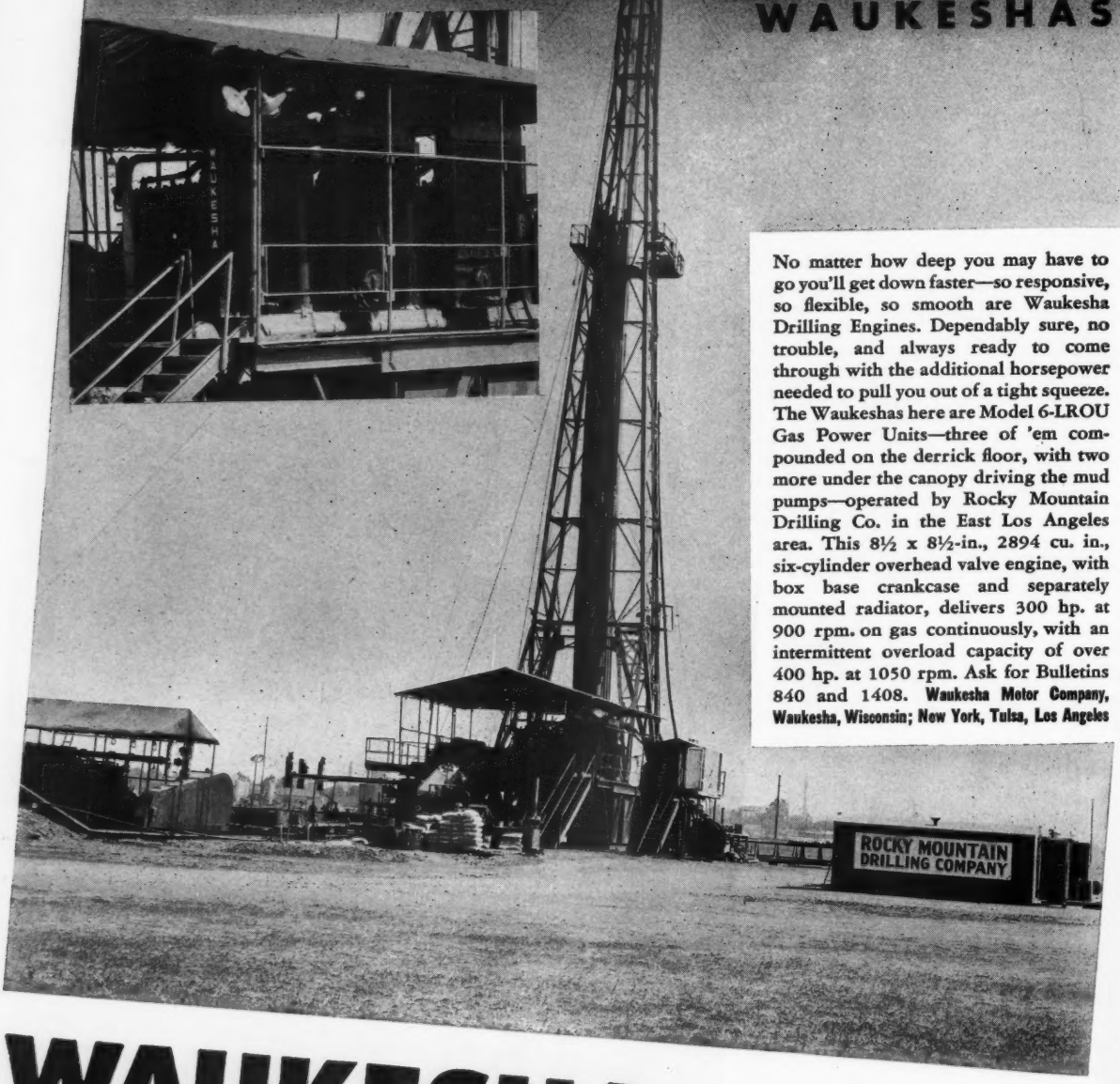

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Diesel Power... ...Gas Power

POWER

COWAGS were referring to Fred Henley's letter to TIME from Wasco California (Kern County) which was published the last January 30th issue under the title of "BLUE FLASHES & A SMALL BEER". The article should have been first prize winner of the national liars contest. It is typical of OIL & MINING prospectors stories of a half century ago and even today. It seems that a friend of Henley's met him at a bar and related how the flying saucers worked. The friend had Geiger counted an uranium deposit, but camped within a 100 yards of it awaiting daylight to file a claim. At dawn a flying saucer swooped down and hovered over the mine, but before the prospector could reach the staked claim the saucer flew off. After applying the Geiger counter again . . . not a click was audible, the saucer having sucked out the uranium. Henley's friend said this was in 1947 . . . and that the incident ruined him financially . . . and just to prove it he showed that not even a dime was in his pocket . . . WHEREUPON Henley bought him a beer.

"MORE POWER TO YOU" . . . said GEORGE FOOTMAN . . . Kern County manager of PG&E . . . to oilmen of this area as its new unit, the second one, was completed this month with an additional 133,000 horse power to total the sum of 235,000 horse power installation. The plant is situated on a 75 acre site near Fruitvale. The $35 million plant was completed on schedule which began in 1946 to supply Kern's needs. First unit was in operation by May 1948.

TAFT THIS MONTH was an experiment ground for artificial rain. At the Taft airport successful exhibits were demonstrated . . . but more or just as important according to oilwigs on the Westside are seeding tests to restore the bald spots now showing up since 1950's rainfall is up to and over normal. Oilwigs want to know when and whether or not to lease lush grass lands to stockholders and customers who use oil and grant leases.

OILWIG GEORGE SUMAN community spirit loving individual who is trying to tell the people that the oil industry is not just another service station is on record as a successful attendance getter for the Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce annual meeting. He filled the big Masonic 800 capacity facility to the hilt. George tries to help TWA when not busy with Rotary or the civic demands.

IN THE RAIN the other day 16 teed off from Stockdale's first tee. Equipped with shower proof togs and club gripping gloves the crew, all oilmen but the second flight made the first green a total for the four foursomes less than a hundred . . . just like ordinary days. At the 19th it was rumored that everyone did a little better than usual in unusual weather. "In sleet, and rain, and snow the oil must flow."

GOVERNOR EARL WARREN was a visitor in Kern County late last month and had a word of encouragement to the Apprenticeship classes of which 54 were graduates. These men will furnish in Kern the finest knowhow for the oil industry and its allied technical needs, and

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MARKETERS

FIREPLACE CHIT CHAT at the Redwood Room facility just before the squab dinner. Western Gulf's G. V. KERSTEN, Norwalk's KELLER GRIGSBY, Honolulu's HERB STARK, TWA's GEORGE SUMAN, and T. E. WEAVER of the same company.

MORE ABOUT THE API ADVISORY COMMITTEE and fellow followers, where looks speak louder than words: J. SHANNON BAKER, Lane Wells Company; D. G. (Doug) KINGMAN, Superintendent General Petroleum, Taft; H. M. VAN CLIEF, Honolulu Oil Corporation; R. F. COREY, the Texas Company; J. J. OLIPHANT, Gee Pee; and DONALD E. KOCH, the Superior Oil Company.

more than half the 330 patrons in attendance were oilfolk.

KERN COUNTY'S OWN NATIONAL GUARD was also in for a visit from WARREN and it was pointed up how the guard during the war performed a great service to the industry during anxious times on security.

FRED OWEN of Ethel D pointed out that such organization from the grass roots level if practiced in the other 3071 USA counties would greatly reduce the national tax burden for support of a great US ar-

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PROBLEMS OF THE EVENING at the Redwood Room were given the corrective interview approach upon general application of friendly consultation. Public relation "know how" are: DICK BRUCE, of Western Consolidated Steel; TEX NEWBY, Southern California Gas; K. C. HAYES, Standard Oil of California; F. R. SCHMIEDER, Shell Oil; H. V. COWGER, of the same company; and F. M. COLE, Honolulu Oil Corporation.

API SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CHAPTER officers met in Bakersfield a fortnight ago in the first meeting for 1950. Together with the advisory council members the group observed, with its membership, the 20th anniversary of the foundation of API at Taft in 1930, which was the beginning of the "API" movement as evidenced by scores of chapters all over the nation. (Left to right) Chairman JOSEPH P. SHEA, chief petroleum engineer for Richfield Oil Corporation; Vice Chairman TOM WOODWARD, private consultant, Taft; Second Vice Chairman ROBERT AYARS, petroleum engineer for Ohio Oil Company; and WILLIAM C. BAILEY, Secretary-Treasurer, who is senior petroleum engineer for the State of California, Division of Oil & Gas.

my.

This reminds us that Kern County Bank paid its usual nice dividend to stockholders this 1949 years' ending and is in bankshape 1950.

KERN COUNTY TOURS to Mexico begin August 1 . . . but do not forget Honolulu June 12 when the first tour party leaves. These tours are to be led off by Kernoilwigs and JACK GORDON of Standard has been named captain of the goodwill tourship which flies to Hawaii first.

WEDDING BELLS gonged for KENNETH FORD MARSHALL of the E. B. Hall Drilling and . . . Production Company . . . and Miss Hazel St. Mary Coleman. The Coleman family is well known as one of the county's pioneers.

PANAMERICAN got a 3500 barrel well just thirty years ago according to the Bakersfield Californian. Those were the good old days.

MOST PAGED PERSON for 1950 is HUGHIE MC CAY of Hogan Petroleum Company at the El Tejon hotel. Evidently lease attention for "When it rains . . . It also pours" down the highways toward Hugh's wells.

PROBABLY THE BIGGEST news this year so far comes from the API . . . San Joaquin Chapter which held its first meeting of 1950 with its new officers.

Significant thing about the chapter is its 20th birthday. But more important than anything else is the fact that it started with Gee Pee's DICK SHINN as its first chairman way back in 1930 at Taft . . . and some of its many members . . . listed as "charter members" were present . . . but that is not all. This was the first chapter of scores of such chapters all over the USA.

Officers for 1950 are: Chairman, JOSEPH P. SHEA, chief petroleum engineer for Richfield Oil Corporation; vice chairman TOM WOODWARD, private consultant; second vice chairman, ROBERT AYARS, petroleum engineer for Ohio; and WILLIAM C. BAILEY, secretary-treasurer who is a senior engineer for the State of California Division of Oil & Gas . . . in charge of the local facility.

THERE HAVE BEEN MANY STORIES about the meeting but here is a version of the session which took place at the Palm Room of the Bakersfield Inn, following an executive session of the advisory committee and board of directors:

During the discussion of the future of Cuyama Valley oil field CHESTER DAVIS production engineer for Richfield and MASON HILL, now assistant geologist for the same firm brought out many factors. The press did a good job and the news is now history, but the box score should be of interest.

In two short years the daily output of 36,100 barrels from 190 wells was tallied . . . as of January 15, 1950. Gas injection was initiated in the Russell Ranch Dibblee zone according to Davis, with all indications as being unadaptable in the Colgrove zone. No pressure decline is noted in the South Cuyama field . . . so future performance will guide injection there.

Future plans for the oil-rich valley include laying a 10 inch line to Wheeler Ridge, 39 . . . miles of it to tie in with Wilmington refinery. Eventual capacity will be 51,000 b/d with boosting ability totaling 75,000 b/d . . . "when and if needed" by additions to the Ventucopa boosting plant.

When the meeting broke up, oilwigs were left in doubt on only one major question . . "when and where the valley's next field will open". There seemed to be some feeling that MASON HILL knew . . . but Mason wasn't telling. His closing remark was "If they (the wildcatters) keep drilling, we'll probably get another field."

This sounded like an understatement to the men who have followed Cuyama's development from the

first discovery until today when the field is headed for the horizon of the California oil picture.

HILL told how the Richfield set up a code in order to discuss cores over the telephone and maintain secrecy surrounding the first tests. Some trouble developed and finally the cores were brought to the County Seat of Kern.

Today some 384,000 acres are under lease or option since the stampede of 1948 which brought the beginning of activity along this line on surface geology.

Mason graphically described the "CV" as a basin 50 x 10 miles, lying off the San Andreas and Nacimeinto faults in the Cuyama-Caliente fault block. Oil was found not because of surface indications but on account of wildcat drilling. Oil accumulates against the Russell fault in both the Dibblee and Colgrove sands, according to Hill.

More than one oil company walked off the prospective oil province because of . . . "conditions not favorable for large oil accumulations".

Chet Davis said the White Rock and Russell Ranch producing areas were at first thought to be separate pools, divided by a thin,non-productive gap. That gap is now producing 5000 b/d, Davis added.

And so went the facts and figure in substance and in part, after the last fuzzy slide had cleared the screen, but geologists and guests soon had some different notions about Cuyama.

However, there seems to be more to the Cuyama story than rags-to-riches . . . yarns about homesteaders who leased land to oil companies and old timers who always knew the valley was rich in oil.

Richfields' leasing campaign turned up acreage, old-timers had held for as long as 40 years, just in belief it might prove to be oiland, according to Chet Davis, who is northern production engineer for Richfield now located in Bakersfield.

Wildcatting is nothing new for the valley, Davis reported, listing a 2322-foot duster as the district's first test some 30 years ago. Wildcat operators spotted their early tests according to surface geology and oil seeps, which led to a dozen failures before the discovery well was turned into the tanks.

Geology of the Russell Ranch and South Cuyama fields is not indicated by surface geological features, Mason Hill told the APIwigs. Richfield's first producer was tabbed as a Santa Margarita Sand test which went deeper and made the valley's first effective and significant find.

"Those were exciting days," Hill declared, "And it was a thrill to be a part of it."

NEXT MEETING OF THE API will be held in Taft . . . the programs are of the most interesting & highest of quality one would like witnessing. Those belong, tell us that no organization of the industry is so completely a cross section of the fraternity as API . . . not only did we see the brass helmets but the technical and engineering knowhow. More than that we found social engineers and members of organizations who depend upon the oil for their endeavors to be successful. By special dispensation your scribe was voted to membership because the directors thought we might help . . . and the oil business, although never expecting it or asking for it . . . does and will need help during the prophesied lean years as outlined not only by congress but public services, requirements in 1950-51.

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San Jacinto Lease Campaign

A combination of Whittier businessmen is reported conducting a leasing campaign in the San Jacinto area with tentative plans drawn for a wildcat well there before summer. Protection acreage is understood being sought there by several independent operating organizations.

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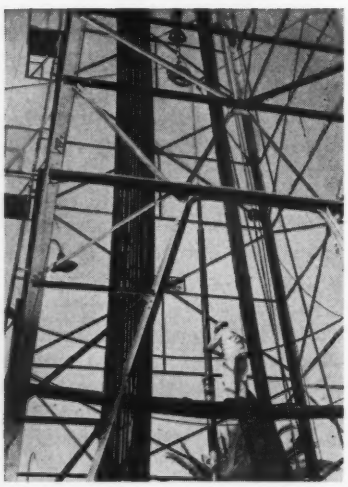

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Field Development

Los Angeles Basin

Newhall Site Again on Trial

The Newhall townsite area is the scene of a renewed excitement, where a year ago R. W. Sherman completed his Newhall Comm. No. 3-1 wildcat well for 400 barrels daily. However, commercial aspect of the well soon was ruined by water breaking in. Much time and effort failed to remedy the situation and the project has been standing idle until new operations were decided upon. The project at this writing is redrilling at approximately 5315 ft. Original depth was 5846 ft. Location is at Valley and Lyons streets on Sec. 2-3n-16w in the southwest portion of Newhall. Three-quarters of a mile southwest of the Sherman job, W. W. Bush and Ben Hur Refining Company are ready to deepen from 5112 ft. the Perkins No. 1 on Sec. 11-3n-16w. The well, on a 120-acre lease, was originally put down by Rothschild Oil Company.

Wilmington Project Digs

Drilling is near 4300 ft. in the Airways Petroleum Corporation Santa Susana No. 1 on Sec. 16-4s-13w in the north Wilmington area. The derrick stands in the vicinity of 223rd street and Wilmington avenue.

Del Valle Test Works

Humble Oil and Refining Company has begun a followup well to its N. L. & F. No. 1 discovery in the southeast Del Valle area. It is N. L. & F. No. 2 and is located 2799 ft. west and 933 ft. north of the first well on Sec. 14-4n-17w. Northeast of Del Valle, Bolsa Chica Oil Corporation and Fred Manning are making hole below 6950 ft. with Strawn No. 1 wildcat on Sec. 10-4n-17w. On tests higher in the hole the well showed heavy oil. Southern California Petroleum Corporation's Kinler No. 1 on Sec. 16-4n-17w near the Del Valle field is drilling at 6830 ft., after recovering fish. On ground of the Lincoln Petroleum Company, Havenstrite Oil Company is digging at 11,100 ft. with Lincoln No. 16, with expectations the well will go to 12,000 or 13,000 ft. On test of a 200-ft. interval around 10,000 ft., the well showed a substantial flow. The 7-inch casing is set at 10,990 ft.

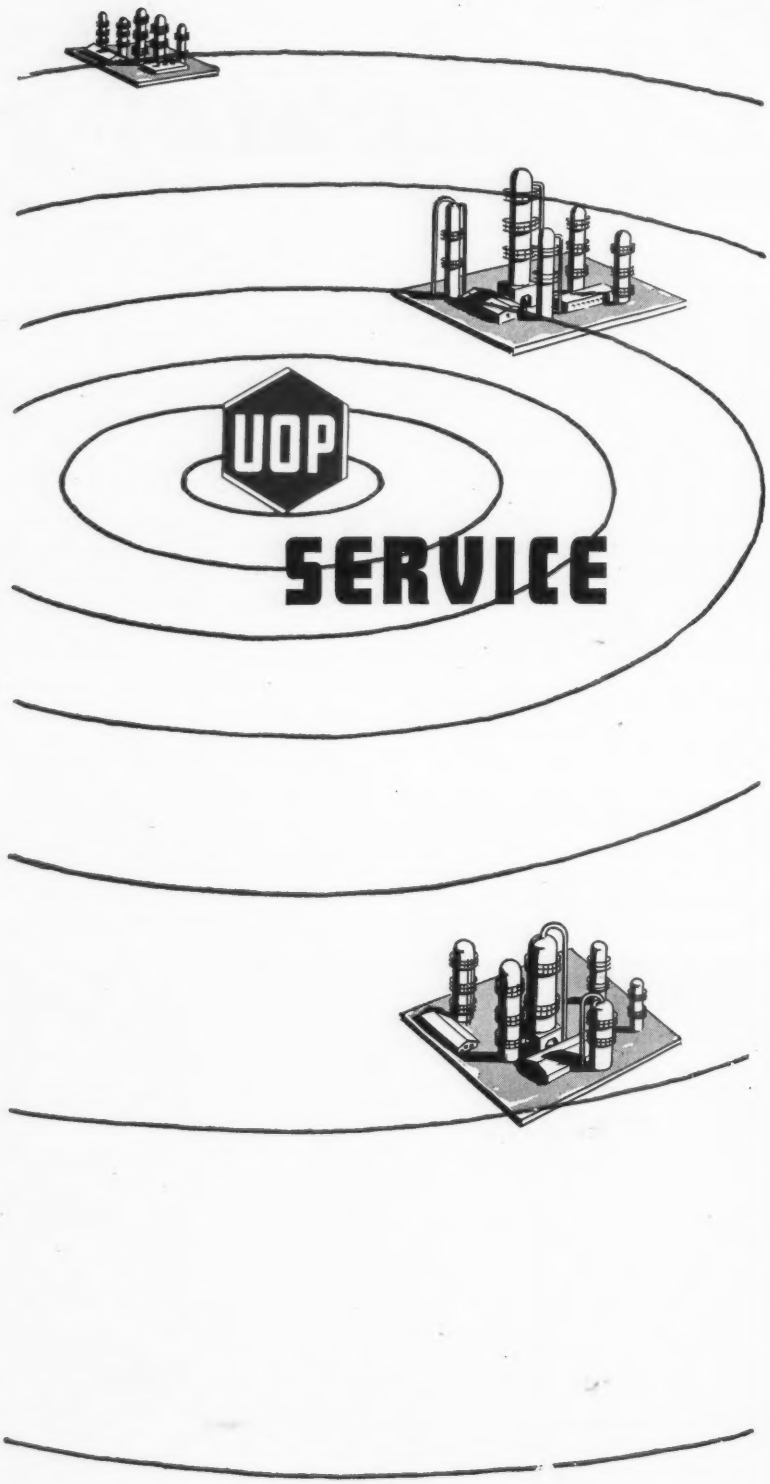
Athens Well On Calendar

A location is Athens Oil Corporation's Rockstroh No. 1 on Sec. 12-3s-14w on ground northwest of Athens. Drilling will be conducted near the intersection of Halldale avenue and 122nd street.

Placerita Well Spuds

Northwest of Placerita production, General Petroleum Corporation has spudded its Bermite No. 1 at Newhall in Sec. 25-4n-16w. The company's Circle J. No. 2 on Sec. 26-4n-16w is redrilling at 3850 ft., after setting whipstock at 3430 ft. Original bottom is 6112 ft. The Robert Rocco D. & C. No. 1 test on Sec. 36-4n-16w is standing at a plugged depth of 3492 ft., with total depth 4015 ft. The future course of the project appears uncertain. T. W. S. Oil Company has staked Mitchell No. 1 on Sec. 33-4n-15w.

In the Placerita Canyon Field, at Gordon Oil Co.'s Peggy Moore No. 10, T. W. Drilling Co., contractor. Left to right: H. F. Wakeman, pipe racker; H. C. Steele, cathead; Rube Hudson, driller; I. R. Hudson, derrick.



Globe Boosts Capacity With Fluid Cat Cracker

By G. G. Woodruff
Secretary, Globe Oil & Refining Co.

BY REPLACING a thermal cracking plant with the most modern type of fluid catalytic cracking unit and a gas concentration system, a major step has been taken in expanding the motor fuel producing capacity of our refinery at Lemont, Illinois, and substantially improving the octane rating of our gasoline.

G. G. Woodruff

The flexibility of the cat cracker also enables us to increase the yield of other light products, notably domestic furnace oil and diesel fuel, for which there is a growing demand. Production of heavy fuel oil, which is less desirable, has been reduced. With these improvements our refinery is in position to meet not only present octane requirements, but those anticipated in the forseeable future.

Unit Designed by Universal

When the installation of catalytic cracking facilities was first under consideration, all available processes were investigated from the standpoints of construction cost, yield and quality of gasoline and other products to be obtained. After thorough study, the design and engineering of the new facilities were entrusted to Universal Oil Products Company. The new unit, with a design capacity of 6,000 b/d, was placed on stream in early January.

Our Overall Operation

About 9,000 b/d of a mixture of West Texas, Wyoming and Gulf Coast crudes are charged to a combination atmospheric and vacuum distillation unit which produces about 2,800 b/d of gas oil. Approximately 22,000 barrels of a mixture of Illinois, Kansas and Gulf Coast sweet crudes are charged to a combination topping and gas oil cracking unit which produces about 3,200 barrels of a mixture of straight-run and cracked gas oils. The two gas oil streams, amounting to 6,000 barrels, are cracked in the new unit.

The overall refinery operation, including topping, cat cracking, desulfurization, thermal reforming and catalytic polymerization, produces about 17,800 b/d of gasoline or approximately 1,000 barrels more than was produced prior to the installation of the cat cracker. About 7,000 barrels of this gasoline are brought to Ethyl grade with 0.6cc of lead as compared to 1.8cc which we formerly used, while 10,800 barrels are marketed as housebrand gasoline with the addition of 1.1cc of lead. Other pro-

(Advertisement)

ducts are kerosene, diesel fuel, tractor fuel, furnace oil, heavy fuel oil, asphalt and road oil.

Here is a comparison of the yield from our old thermal unit and that which we expect from the fluid unit:

	Thermal Cracking		Catalytic Cracking (50% Conversion)	
	Bbl.	%	Bbl.	%
Gasoline (C_4 to 400°F)	1680	27.9	2860	47.8
Light fuel	1020	17.0	1800	30.0
Heavy fuel	3220	53.6	1200	20.0
Gas (Fuel oil equiv.)	186	3.1	440	7.3

The cat cracker is of the general UOP design with the reactor supported by a skirt set on the regenerator and with the stripper hung from the side of the reactor. The new graphic type control board, developed by UOP will be installed.

Low cost and reliable electric power is available to Globe, hence motor drives are used for the air blower and the gas compressors, as well as for most of the pumps. This results not only in lowered utility costs but also in a decrease in capital cost and maintenance.

Steam is used by the process for stripping catalyst and side cuts. This is exhaust from the main column bottoms circulating pump — the only turbine driven pump on the unit. A small amount of reboiler steam is also used for a few small reciprocating pumps and for a small reboiler in the gas recovery unit.

The Gas Concentration System

Steam is generated from waste heat in the regenerator flue gas and the column bottoms. After furnishing steam to the catalytic cracking and gas recovery units, about 10,000 lb./hr. is supplied the refinery for use in crude and vacuum units. The gas concentration system is of the deethanizer type. Its two functions are the preparation of feed for the catalytic polymerization unit and the debutanization of catalytically cracked gasoline; hence, it is designed for maximum recovery of propane.

The system consists of a compressor section, a deethanizer and a debutanizer. Two existing towers were adapted to the deethanizer service.

In operation, the gas from the catalytic cracker receiver is compressed in two stages to 200 lb. per square inch and is charged to an absorption type deethanizer. The overhead from this tower is ethane and lighter gas which is discharged to the fuel gas line. The bottoms are charged to the debutanizer which operated at 150 lb. pressure. The debutanizer overhead is composed of C_3C_4 fractions, which constitute the charge to the poly unit. The bottoms normally are debutanized gasoline. The unit is designed for very high heat efficiency, reboiler requirements being supplied almost entirely by heat exchange from a cat cracker side-cut and debutanizer bottoms.

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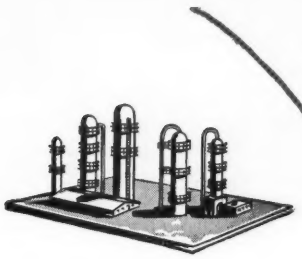

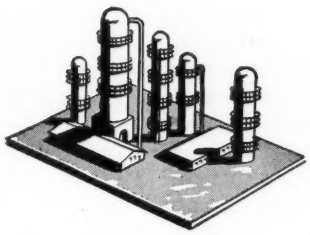

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Buena Park Well Rigging

At Buena Park in Orange County, Humble Oil and Refining is about to begin drilling its Kienzle No. 1 exploratory well on Sec. 36-3s-11w.

Santa Ana Test Deeper

Drilling and coring below 2700 ft. was the last word on the Richfield Oil Corporation Peralta Hills No. 1 prospect job on Sec. 3-4s-9w at Santa Ana Canyon, Orange County.

Aliso Canyon Wildcat Works

With tools below 4800 ft., drilling is proceeding normally in Union Oil's Mission-Adrian No. 1 wildcat on Sec. 35-3n-16w in the Aliso Canyon area.

Corona Try Quits

Southeast of Corona in Riverside County, Frontier Petroleum Company has abandoned its Barger No. 1 on Sec. 28-4s-6w at 1060 ft. Apparently no showings were encountered at any operational stage. Kenneth E. Reid is at an inconclusive depth with his Kincheloe No. 1 on Sec. 17-4s-6w at Corona, and Victor Berghofer is drilling Berghofer No. 1 at Elsinore on Sec. 12-5s-6w.

Chino Hills Wildcat Scene

Royalty Service Corporation, Ltd. is rigging to start the drill in its No. 32-1 wildcat well on Sec. 32-2s-8w in the Chino Hills area, San Bernardino County. C. D. Howe's Downs No. 1 test at Carbon Canyon on Sec. 31-2s-8w is drilling near 1450 ft. John W. Brashear's Dana No. 1 on Sec. 26-1s-5w at Colton is a rig.

Wilmington Drill Program

Union Pacific Railroad is preparing to drill 16 new wells in the Terminal Island sector of the Wilmington field. They are designed to supplant in part more than 40 producing wells which were more or less incapacitated by the earthquake November last.

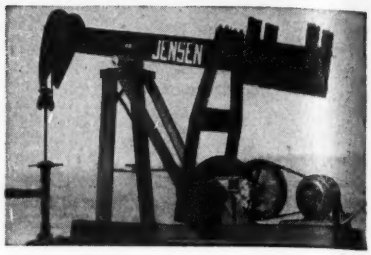
San Fernando Wildcat Cores

Spot coring and drilling ahead at 8800 ft. is the status at this writing of Standard of California's Woo No. 1 wildcat test at San Fernando in Sec. 19-2n-15w.

Calabasas Wildcat Digs

Chadwick and Patricia Trower's No. 1 prospect drilling job at old Calabasas in Los Angeles County is down 1200 ft. Derrick is on Sec. 32-1n-17w.

Jergins Oil Co. well Huckeba No. 5 in the Mountain View Field, left to right: H. Z. Clark, racker; John E. Holmes, cathead; C. J. Tiner, derrickman; L. D. Buckalew, well puller.



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Los Angeles Well Rigging

Rigging is under way for the Richfield Oil Corporation Edison No. 3 on Sec. 16-2s-12w in the East Los Angeles area. Location is on the Edison Company right-of-way.

Seal Beach Well Coring

Continental Oil Company's Bixby No. 2 on Sec. 11-5s-12w is coring at 7000 ft. The Hellman Estate No. 38 on Sec. 12-5s-12w is making hole at 9540 ft.

San Joaquin Valley

North Cuyama Wildcat Digs

Approximately eight miles from production on the Russell Ranch on a northwest trend, Universal Consolidated Oil Company is drilling below 1200 ft. with SM-Humble No. 1 on Sec. 24-32s-19e. The company has a farmout of some 2000 acres from Humble Oil and Refining Company. In addition to Humble, other ground holders in the area include Southern California Petroleum, Richfield Oil, Signal Oil & Gas and Bandini Petroleum. The well is apparently aimed for the Painted Rocks formation around 5000 ft. Six miles southeast of South Cuyama production on the ranch of Juan Reyes and Eugene Wegis, Richfield has resumed operations at 6049 feet in its No. A-1 on Sec. 9-9n-25w. The well was given up last summer and the company's return to the well has prompted much speculation in oil circles. R. B. Jackson's Stubblefield No. 1 on Sec. 20-10n-24w at the east end of Cuyama Valley is coring below 2800 ft. The wildcat is about 14 miles east of the South Cuyama field. Superior Oil, Texas Company and General Petroleum are among organizations owning leases south and east of the test. F. C. Griggs & Associates' Norris-Cuyama No. 2 on Sec. 25-11n-28w has been recompleted at 3420 ft. The project started off with a flow of 1400 barrels a day. This was the first well in Cuyama Valley to find oil in encouraging quantities.

Pattiway Test Spuds

Not far west of the San Andreas fault, Superior Oil has spudded and is drilling in the shallower formations with its Hudson No. 85-26 on Sec. 26-10n-24w in the Pattiway area, Kern County.

Hanford Try Quits

In the Hanford area of Kings County, Independent Exploration abandoned its Bennett-Smith No. 52 wildcat on Sec. 31-18s-23e. Location is one mile northeast of Continental Oil's Drummond No. 1, which quit at 7898 ft., after hitting granite at 7788 ft. Barnsdall Oil, meantime, is about to start the drill in its Lynch-Mouren No. 88-9 on Sec. 9-23s-17e in the Reef Ridge area of the county. In the Tulare Lake Basin area, Shell Oil is rigging Harvester Unit No. 1-1 wildcat on Sec. 11-23s-21e. Drill site is eight miles northwest of the Trico field.

Shandon Try Quits

General Petroleum has abandoned its Clarke No. 84-25 exploratory project on Sec. 25-26s-14e in the Shandon area of San Luis Obispo County. Prospecting stopped at 5687 ft. On the Painted Rock anticline, Texas Company is drilling and coring at 5530 ft. with Blakey No. 1 on Sec. 16-32s-20e. Continental Oil's Munsey-USL No. 1 test at Crocker Flat on Sec. 4-32s-22e has reached 9000 ft. in cherty shale.

Edison Well Pumping Oil

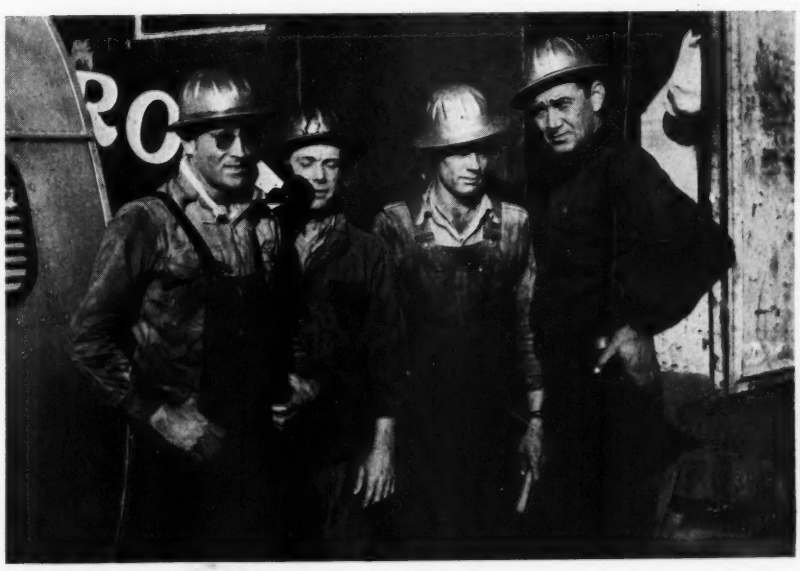
Mark Morris, individual operator, appears to have scored a fault block discovery with his Brandt No. 2 on Sec. 22-30s-29e at West Edison. The well initially pumped at the rate of 85 barrels of 18 gravity oil gross a day, cutting 30 per cent drilling fluid and cleaning up. Yield was through a 12/64-in. choke. Located 450 ft. south of the Brandt No. 1 producer, the new well picked up the Chanac formation from 2980 to 3125 ft. The No. 1 well found the same formation at 2870 ft. and it persisted on down to 3020 ft. Engineering was in charge of Ross Cabeen & Associates.

Midway Well Good Redrill

A well at Midway originally drilled in 1911 has been redrilled by Loscal Petroleum Company and put on production for 60 barrels of oil daily. The well, 39 years ago, bottomed at 2196 ft. On the redrill the old hole was whipstocked some 1500 ft. and bottomed once again at 2196 ft. The company's 80-acre lease contains six producing wells. When the company acquired the property some years ago production totaled 600 barrels a month. Currently it accounts for 3000 barrels a month.

Carrizo Plains Wildcat Drills

Territory three miles southeast of last summer's drilling activity in the Carrizo Plains area of San Luis Obispo County is the scene of E. T. Willard's Rector-Avenales No. 1 test on Sec. 5-29s-19e. The venture at



Shamrock Drilling Co., contractor for Hancock Oil Co. well Harbor No. F-8 at Terminal Island. Left to right: J. W. Henderson, cathead; H. Elliott, floorman; C. C. Hanson, derrickman; H. L. Sigman, head wellpuller.

last reports was making progress with the drill at an inconclusive level.

Trico Test Grows Deep

Drilling has reached a depth of 10,800 ft. in the Trico Oil & Gas Company Tulare Farms No. 55 on Sec. 27-24s-29e in the Trico area, Tulare County. On Sec. 20-24s-28e, Frank and Thomas Cannella are starting Exploration No. 2. This is near Ducor.

Mendota Test Digs

Making hole above objective depth is the L. M. Lockhart McNear No. 1-29 on Sec. 29-14s-15e in the Mendota area of Fresno County. At Raisin City, Northwest Syndicate and British American Oil Producing have completed KRD No. 82A-9 at 5246 ft. on Sec. 9-15s-17e. Representative yield is yet to be established. Western Gulf's Lillis No. 82-35 on Sec. 35-17s-14e near Cantua Creek is drilling at 3605 ft.

Kern Front Venture Fails

A production failure to 2825 ft. is the Harry H. Magee, Operator, Richfield No. 1 on Sec. 33-28s-27e at Kern Front. The well is bottomed in Chanac gray sand.

Tejon Test Drills Ahead

Enterprise Oil Company continues to drill steadily ahead below 1800 ft. with its R.E.P. No. 46-36 on Sec. 34-11n-19w in the Tejon-Reserve area.

Lost Hills Wildcat Digs

Slightly below 8400 ft. was the last drilling depth reported from the General Petroleum Corporation Williamson No. 33-11 test well on Sec. 11-26s-20e at Lost Hills.

Lindsay Hills Venture Tests

Standard of California continues to test its Van Sicklin No. 46 wildcat on Sec. 36-27s-21e in the Lindsay Hills no great distance from the Lost Hills field. The well is bottomed at 14,577 ft.

Santiago Try Fails

Following bailing of mud and salt water, H. W. Orwig's Orwig No. 1 test on Sec. 14-10n-23w in the Santiago Creek area has been given up at 1508 ft. as a production failure.

Rio Bravo Well Redrills

Redrilling has reached 11,300 ft. in Superior Oil's Kernco No. 85-34 on Sec. 34-28s-25e in the Rio Bravo area. The project was carried originally to 11,303 ft. and is an old Union Oil Company discovery well.

Devils Den Try Working

Drill pipe fish has been pulled from the Tritex Oil Company Tritex-Porter No. 1 wildcat at Devils Den on Sec. 16-25s-18e, Kern County. The project is down 3583 ft. at present.

East Coyote Well Pumping

Completed on the pump at 6571 ft., Union Oil's Sunny Hills No. 5 on Sec. 21-3s-10w in the East Coyote field is putting out mostly water. The company's Hole No. 23 is beginning work on Sec. 23-3s-10w. At West Coyote, Standard of California has a brace of drilling jobs under way. They are Murphy-Coyote No. 249 on Sec. 19-3s-10w, and Murphy-Coyote No. 250 on Sec. 13-3s-11w.

Eddie Arcaro, famed jockey now riding at Santa Anita, has enrolled as a member of the Independent Petroleum Association of America. Jockey Arcaro has active interests in the oil industry as well as the turf.

Back at his Los Angeles desk from an extensive tour of Europe is E. G. (Gene) Starr, president of Universal Consolidated Oil Company.

Edwin L. Smith and Frank Ittner have been named vice presidents of Superior Oil Company, Los Angeles. Smith formerly was district manager for the company in Oklahoma City. Ittner was manager of Superior exploration in the Pacific division.

New Exploration Technique

(Continued from Page 7)

seismic picture. It was especially in picking up faults and in detailing formations in the neighborhood of faults that the "H"' spread technique demonstrated its value. Small displacements in spreads are apparently most significant in faulted zones because of the local irregularities commonly associated with faulting.

Cost Factors

The "H" spread can be effectively employed by a normally constituted seismic crew with practically no decrease in number of holes shot per day. In many cases "H"' spreads can produce usable maps where otherwise the prospect would be considered unworkable. The use of "H" spreads can often, therefore, result in an increase of information vastly out of proportion to the relatively insignificant increase in the cost of operation.

Summary

The reasons for the effectiveness of the "H" spread technique are still under investigation, although Mr. Savit in his paper discussed at some length evidences for and against various possible causes. It seems, however, that no matter what the reasons for the effectiveness of such techniques, their efficacy is now beyond doubt. The application of the "H" spread technique in all its variations and ramifications has spread to other areas where it has been found to produce additional necessary information in cases where such information was most needed.

Western's new technique thus reduces markedly the area which is considered beyond the reach of the seismograph and thereby extends the frontiers of exploration geophysics.

James McIntyre, retired former oil writer, died at Tulsa, Okla., at the age of 77.

Earl Gilmore, founder of Gilmore Oil Company, and owner of Gilmore Stadium at Hollywood, has purchased a new Sun Lodge home in Palm Springs.

Coastal and Northern District

Santa Cruz Project Digs

The exploratory well being drilled in Santa Cruz County by Honolulu, Seaboard and the Doheny interests is below 5900 ft. The venture has been the focal point of attention because success would open a vast expanse of ground to new drilling and the fact that to present depth showings have been found. Formation tests to date appear to have shown water in the oil sands. Nevertheless, the sands are there and drilling elsewhere in the area may find sands free of water contamination. The well is on Sec. 17-9s-2w near Boulder Creek and is called Hinman No. 1. Several of California's largest operating organizations have taken leases in the area and it would not be surprising if several wildcat wells would start there in the near future.

Antioch Try Quits

Porter Sesnon et al has abandoned Sesnon No. 1 test at 6951 ft. on Sec. 24-2n-2e in the Antioch area of Contra Costa County. On formation test, with packer at 6920 ft., 3090 ft. of salt water was recovered.

Madera Try Digs

von Glahn Oil Company has spudded and is drilling through the shallower formations with its Mendoza No. 1 test well on Sec. 24-10s-17e, five and one-half miles north of the town of Madera in Madera County.

Ventura Avenue Well Completed

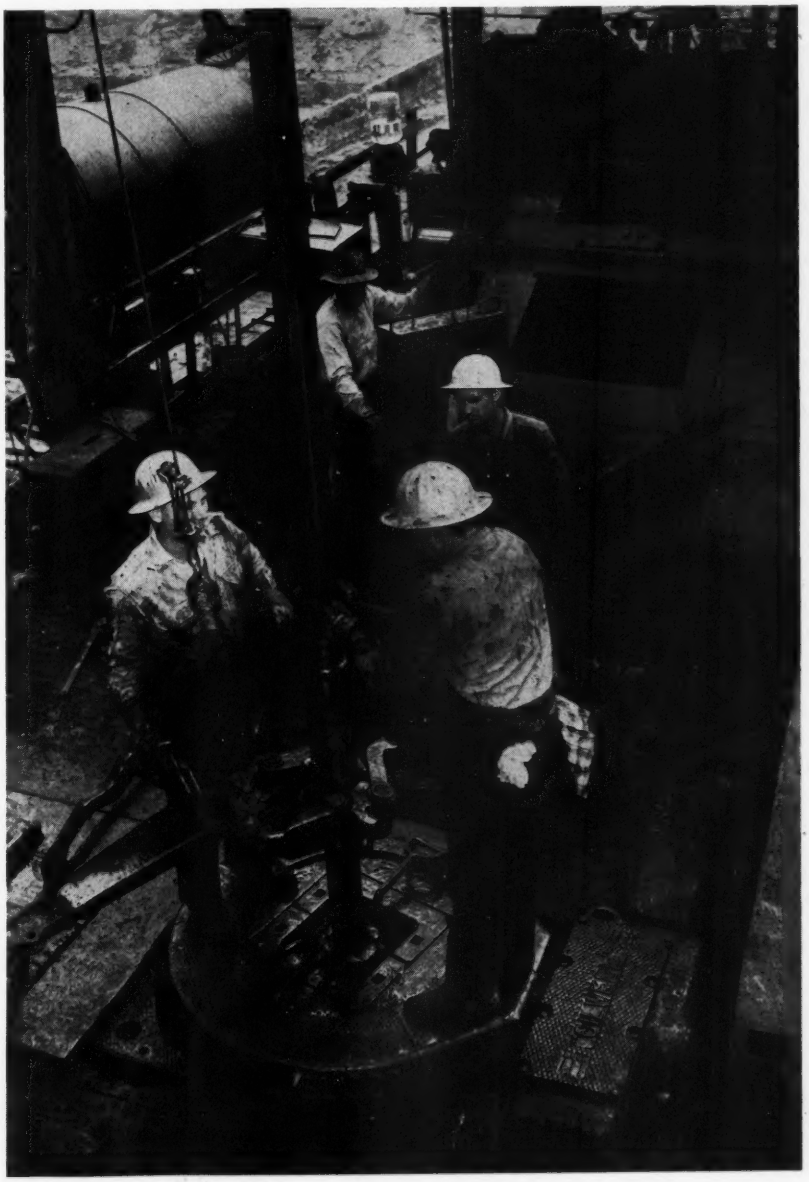
British American Oil Producing has completed a new well in the Ventura Avenue field capable of an output of 1000 barrels daily. The well, No. 17 on the 87-acre Hartman lease, on an 8-hour gauge started off at the rate of 813 barrels daily and during the last three hours of the period was flowing about 1000 barrels a day. Output was restricted by an 18/64-in. orifice. Total depth is 11,038 ft., with 8⅝-in. casing set at 9328 ft. The company is drilling at 1670 ft. with Hartman No. 18, east of the new producer on the same section. A 40 per cent interest in the lease is held by Bolsa Chica Oil Corporation. The Samuel Bennett, Operator, Bennett-Foster No. 1 on Sec. 28-3n-23w is drilling below 5000 ft.

Ozena Try Quits

After coring basement at 4125 ft., C. W. Colgrove pulled out of his Reyes No. 64-12 on Sec. 12-7n-24w in the Ozena area of Ventura County at a total depth of 4145 ft.

Petaluma Test Digs

Drilling sand and shale at 960 ft. is the latest word from the Wa-Me-Co Drilling Company Sartori No. 1 explorer on Sec. 24-5n-7w in the Petaluma area, Sonoma County.



In the Long Beach field at Union Pacific R.R. Co.'s well No. 462, Terminal Drilling Company contractors. J. C. Miller, driller; T. S. Newbill, cathead; R. H. Harris, helper; R. J. McKeon, helper.

Simi Well Oil Failure

Northridge Oil Company's Simco No. 2 test well on Sec. 31-3n-17w in the Simi area of Ventura County has been abandoned at an unproductive level of 1410 ft.

Sespe May Be Condor Reserve

W. Scott Russell, owner of substantial Government leases on the Sespe River, said but few condors live in the Sespe area of Ventura County. Russell expressed this opinion as result of a proposal to withdraw a portion of the Federal tract from possible oil development and setting it up as a reserve for condors at the request of the Audubon Society. The big birds rather than favoring the Sespe area appear more at home around the fringes of lower San Joaquin Valley among cattle and sheep ranches, according to the oilman. He explained that condors live on carrion and that there is little food of this type for them at Sespe. Russell reckoned that if what has been proposed becomes an actual fact, several oil companies and more than 100 leaseholders in the area will be affected. He views the issue as based on the question of whether a potential of millions of barrels of oil are worth more than a few condors.

San Miguelito Test Grows Deep

Continental Oil's Grubb No. 65-E deep test on Sec. 25-3n-24w in the San Miguelito field is drilling at 16,340 ft. At present depth the project is about 6900 ft. deeper than the lowest zone now producing in the field.

Santa Paula Venture Digs

At Santa Paula Creek in Ventura County, Robert S. Rocco is drilling deeper at 1800 ft. with Lottie B. McFann No. 1 wildcat on Sec. 15-4n-21w.

Cat Canyon Well Rigging

Approximately 12 miles southeast of the town of Santa Maria, General Petroleum Corporation is rigging Idoil No. 24-22 on Sec. 22-9n-33w

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in the West Cat Canyon area. The well is a westerly offset to Bankline Oil's WB No. 34 producer.

Bardsdale Job Drills

Cleveland Oil Company at last reports was making hole ahead at 3420 ft. with its Elkins No. 5 on Sec. 7-3n-19w in the Bardsdale field. Union Oil's Geis-Robertson No. 2 has been completed on Sec. 12-3n-10w for a satisfactory yield from 7215 ft. The company's Irwin No. 3 on the section is starting.

Casmalia Well In

Union Oil Company has finaled Escolle No. A-9 in the Casmalia field on Sec. 28-9n-34w for an initial output of 17 barrels a day, cutting 97 per cent. Total depth is 3555 ft., with casing cemented at 2885 ft.

Arroyo Grande Wildcat Drills

Prospect drilling has reached 7540 ft. in C. W. Colgrove's Elberta No. 1-5 wildcat on Sec. 5-32n-13e in the Arroyo Grande area of San Luis Obispo County. Surface pipe is set at 600 ft.

Santa Rosa Test Deeper

J. R. (Bill) Pemberton is drilling at 1425 ft. with Tecolote No. 3 on Santa Rosa Island off Santa Barbara. Normal operations in recent weeks were delayed by a fishing job.

San Marcos Wildcat Digs

Lewis W. Welch's Lazy R. G. No. 2 wildcat in the San Marcos area, Sec. 19-6n-28w, Santa Barbara County, continues to drill at 6752 ft. Heavy oil showings were encountered from 4700 ft. in around 5800 ft. Location is 20 miles from Santa Barbara over the San Marcos Pass on a spread of 40,000 acres held by the operator.

Ventura Avenue Test Drilling

Union Oil Company's Fraser No. 88-14A test in the Ventura Avenue field is drilling ahead in the shallower formations. The rig, on Sec. 14-3n-23w, was skidded 32 ft. from the company's Fraser No. 88-14, which was abandoned at 920 ft. due to crooked hole.

Ciervo Try Works

Fairview Exploration Company at last report was down 600 ft. with its Fairview-Panoche No. 1 test on Sec. 33-15s-11e in the Ciervo area, San Benito County.

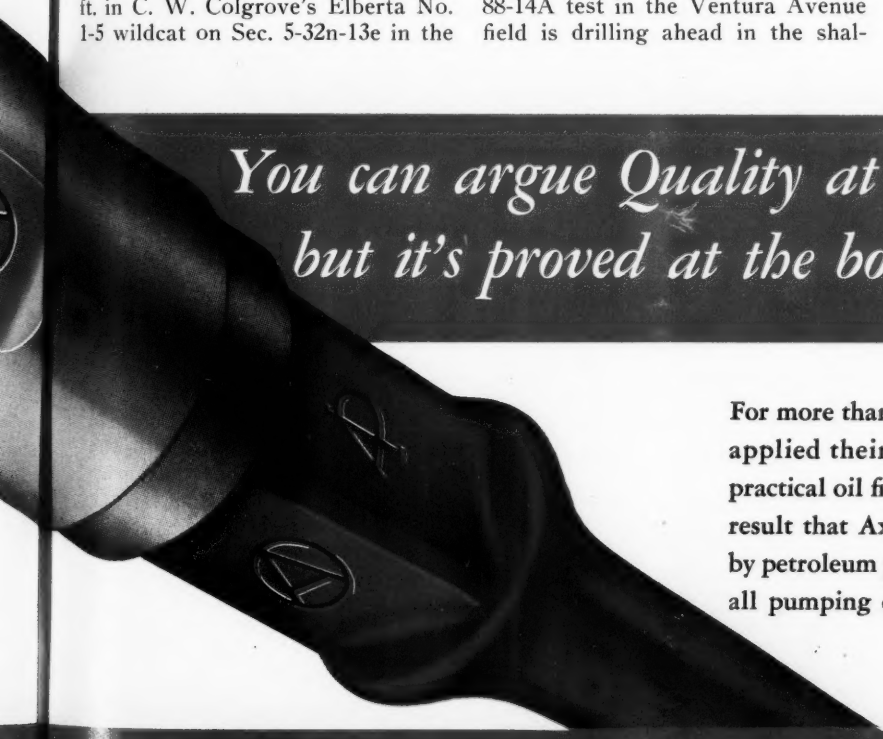
Gould Hills Test Drills

Los Nietos Company's 10,000-ft. test in the Gould Hills area of Kern County is digging at 2000 ft. The well, called Richardson No. 77x-7, is on Sec. 7-29s-21e.

Mojave Try Digs

In the Mojave area of Kern County, Paul Beamer's cable tool drilled Oswald No. 2 on Sec. 12-11n-12w is down 870 ft.

You can argue Quality at the surface but it's proved at the bottom of the well



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Personalities IN THE NEWS

Petroleum Production Pioneers Elect New Officers

At the annual meeting of the Board of Directors, the Petroleum Production Pioneers elected S. F. Bowlby, vice president, Shell Oil Company, Inc. to serve as president of that organization for 1950. Elected with Bowlby was Glen Merkley of the National Supply Company, who will serve as vice president; the new treasurer will be L. L. Aubert, president of Bankline Oil Company, and reelected for another year was Dick Sneddon, secretary, and Joe Robinson, president of Santa Fe Drilling Company, sergeant-at-arms; Ted Sutter, vice president of the Baker Oil Tools, Inc., historian.

S. F. BOWLBY
(Elected Pres. of P.P.P.

Honorary officers elected were R. E. Stearns, vice president of Universal Consolidated Oil Company, honorary president; Max App, vice president of General Petroleum Corporation, honorary vice president.

Laurence Andrew has been appointed Manager of the Pipe Line Department of General Petroleum Corporation according to an announcement by George Supple, Vice President in charge of Pipe Lines.

Other changes in the department include the appointment of V. C. Larsen as General Superintendent and H. T. Williams as Northern Division Superintendent at Taft, California. C. W. House becomes Southern Division Superintendent, Vernon, California.

Andrew has been with General Petroleum since December, 1912, and has spent the entire period in the Pipe Line Department. His most recent post was as General Superintendent.

Larsen joined the Company in 1919 as a truck driver. He transferred to pipe line maintenance work on General Petroleum's transmountain lines in 1929. Since 1940 he has held the post of Northern Division Manager and Assistant General Superintendent successively.

Roger W. Leason, 52, Vice President and Treasurer of Emsco Derrick & Equipment Company passed away suddenly of a heart attack January 11, at his home 5042 Van Alden Avenue, Tarzana.

He was born in Boston, Massachusetts, where he attended school; and later Northwestern University, Chicago.

He served in World War I in the Military Intelligence Branch of the Signal Corps.

He was associated with Ernst & Ernst, Public Accountants for thirteen years prior to joining Emsco Derrick & Equipment Company in 1939.

Mr. Leason was President of the Los Angeles Control of the Controllers Institute of America; a member of the American Petroleum Institute; and the Jonathan Club.

He leaves his widow, Edna I. Leason, a brother, Edwin E. Leason of Boston, and a sister, Mrs. John Layton, Springfield, Massachusetts.

Walker on S. A. Trip

J. Murray Walker, Export Sales Engineer with Lane-Wells Company, is making an extensive trip through most of the South American countries and Mexico. During his two months tour Walker will spend considerable time with the oil industry personnel of each country acquainting them with the services and products offered by Lane-Wells.

J. MURRAY WALKER

Walker joined Lane-Wells in 1937. He has served in both the operations and sales departments of the company. He spent three years in Canada as Manager of the Lane-Wells Canadian Branch. Prior to accepting his present position a year ago, Walker was Division Sales Engineer at Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Ernest R. Love who recently resigned as a Vice President and Director of Camay Drilling Company has joined Stansbury, Incorporated of Bakersfield, Calif. as General Superintendent, in charge of drilling.

M. H. and Burt Stansbury plan to devote more time to their other problems.

R. C. Stoner Retires

Retirement of vice-president and director R. C. Stoner, after more than 36 years of service, was announced recently by Standard Oil Company of California. Stoner had requested retirement because of a long and serious illness.

Stoner's career with Standard was chiefly in the field of geology and oil field production, and he has been an oil man since the first school vacation he spent with the Pacific Coast Oil Company's Kern River division in 1906.

He already had decided to study mining engineering and he subsequently attended the University of California where in addition to being an outstanding baseball player, he majored in geology, graduating with a B.S. degree in 1912. He spent the next year in charge of excavation work for the University of California on the La Brea Pits in Los Angeles.

On June 15, 1913, Reg Stoner joined Standard of California in the geological division of the producing department. From then until February, 1917, he worked as a geologist during exploration and major development work in the Murphy Coyote, Montebello, Signal Hills, Inglewood, Dominguez and Santa Fe Springs pools. He later worked on discovery of the first commercial oil well in Elk Hills.

After two years in the Rocky Mountain area as a geologist, Stoner went to Mexico in 1921 to take charge of exploration activities. He remained there, in geological work and as manager of Mexican activities, until his return to San Francisco in 1924. From 1925 until 1931 Stoner was Assistant General Manager of the producing department, and after seven years as General Manager of that department was elected a director of the company on January 7, 1938.

As manager of Standard's producing department he played an important role in the acquisition, organization and development of Arabian and Netherlands East Indies concessions now prominent in the world oil picture. He was named a vice-president of Standard of California on January 21, 1941. Stoner is recognized as a pioneer in geological work in California and in the economic development of oil pools to protect oil sands from encroaching water.

Dub Named Chairman of A. I. M. E.

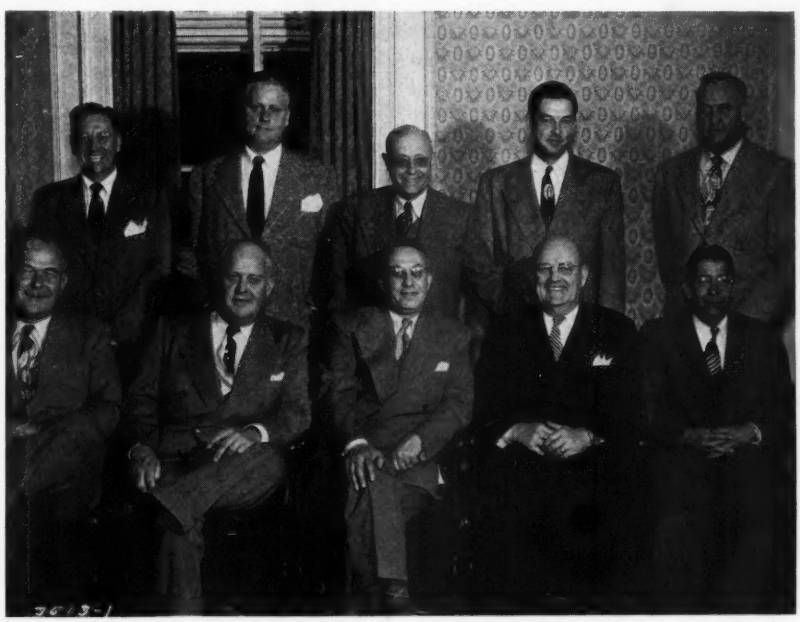
George D. Dub, Consulting Engineer of Los Angeles, is Chairman of the Southern California Section of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers for 1950. Mr. Dub has been a member of A.I.M.E. since 1918 and active in Southern California mining circles for many years. As local Chairman, he will represent the Southern California Section at the annual meeting in New York in February.

Other officers of the Southern California Section, A.I.M.E., are Walter B. Hester, Secretary, and C. W. Six, Treasurer. Mr. Hester is Production Manager, Baroid Sales Division National Lead Company, and Mr. Six is Auditor of the Cyprus Mines Company.

The balance of the Board of Directors of the local section is made up of the Chairmen and past Chairmen of the various technical branches. The Petroleum Branch is represented by N. Van Wingen, Petroleum Technologists, Inc., and Paul Andrews, Signal Oil & Gas Company. Representing the Metals Branch is J. A. Kavenaugh, Revere Copper & Brass Company, and Dr. Leo Schapiro, Douglas Aircraft Company. Dr. Ian Campbell of California Institute of Technology and George Dub represent the Mining Branch.

J. P. Vezzetti has been elected president of Sunset Oil Company, Los Angeles. He succeeds Thomas F. Fournier, who was named chairman of the board of directors. Vezzetti has been associated with Sunset and its predecessors for more than 20 years. He has held the offices of comptroller, secretary-treasurer, and vice president-treasurer.

Fred Manning, member of the California and Rocky Mountain oil fraternity, is recuperating at his Palm Springs home from a siege of illness which kept him under treatment for several weeks at a Denver hospital.



New Officers of the Los Angeles Chapter of Nomads elected to serve in 1950 are, left to right (seated): Fred Ripley, International Derrick & Equipment Company, Board of Regents; Herm Pachall, H. C. Smith Oil Tool, Assistant Secretary; Earle Boggess, Baker Oil Tools, Inc., President; Ted Forsyth, Emsco Derrick and Equipment Company, Vice President; Knight Templeton, Champion-Smith, Treasurer. (Standing): Lee Laird, Gil-Lair Products, Inc., Board of Regents; James Hughes, Lane-Wells Company, Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms; Jack Ballagh, Extruders, Inc., Secretary; John Flanagan, M. O. Johnston Oil Field Service, Assistant Treasurer; and Jerry Engstrand, Grant Oil Tools, Sergeant-at-Arms.

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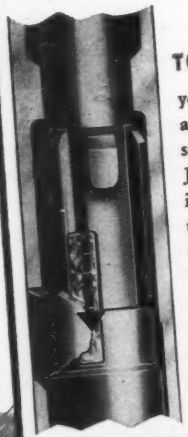

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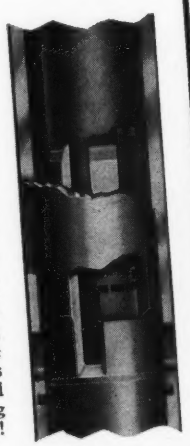
you need only slack the weight of approximately 2,000 feet of drill string upon the Bumper Safety Joint. This weight actuates a positive tripping mechanism which trips *automatically*, allowing the tool to strike a sharp downward blow. Raising the pipe then *automatically* resets the tool for another blow. Blows can be struck repeatedly and continuously by simply raising and lowering the drill string.

TO USE AS A SAFETY JOINT

for quick release from stuck drill collars in the event they cannot be loosened, you simply slack the tripping weight of the string on the Bumper Safety Joint and apply left torque as the string is slowly raised. The slight reverse torque rotates the drive keys into an unlocking slot similar to a "J" tool, so that, by simply continuing to raise the string, complete release from the lower portion of the drill string is effected. Further, the mandrel remaining in the hole is smaller in diameter than the drill collars, thus greatly facilitating fishing operations in tight holes!



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- The Shaffer-Waggener Bumper Safety Joint has been released and reconnected from a 30° angle at a depth of 8,500 ft.
- At 16,883 feet in the world's deepest well the Shaffer-Waggener Bumper Safety Joint proved invaluable in simplifying a recovery operation. A Bumper Safety Joint was being used between the drill collars and drill pipe when the string parted going into the hole, dropping over 2,400 feet of pipe and drill collars 5,000 feet to the bottom of the well at 16,883 feet. The top of the fish was gripped with a socket and the Bumper Safety Joint released, immediately recovering 2,100 feet of drill pipe. The upper part of the Bumper Safety Joint was then run back into the hole below a set of jars, reconnected to the lower half of the Bumper Safety Joint and—after jarring—the drill collars were completely recovered, leaving the hole clean.

Note: For maximum protection many operators are using the Bumper Safety Joint above wash-over strings to facilitate recovery should the string become stuck.

Whether used as a Bumper Sub or as a Safety Joint, the Shaffer-Waggener Bumper Safety Joint provides unique advantages found in no other tool—advantages too numerous to outline here but which are described in detail in a descriptive bulletin which will gladly be sent you on request. Send today for your free copy of this informative eight page bulletin!

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McCarty Co. Advances Davenport and Wilde

Clarence G. Davenport, associated with The McCarty Company of Los Angeles since 1930, and Willard H. Wilde Manager of McCarty's San Francisco Office since 1939, have both been named Vice Presidents of the organization, effective February 1st.

Mr. Davenport, a graduate of Harvard College, has been identified with all phases of the Agency's operation, and his new executive function will place him in charge of research and the development of client plans and campaigns. Granted a leave of absence during World War II, he served as a Captain in the Field Artillery, European Theatre of Operations with the Third Army. He has long been associated with advertising agency activities on the West Coast, and is presently a Vice President of the National Industrial Advertising Association, Southern California Chapter.

Mr. Wilde, a graduate of the University of California, started with The McCarty Company in San Francisco in 1939 as an Account Executive, becoming Manager three years later. Under his direction the volume of client business has increased steadily, and the staff has been expanded to render a complete agency service in all branches. Mr. Wilde has likewise been active in agency activities on the Coast.

John D. Sievers, founder of the Security Engineering Company, an oil field tool concern and one of Whittier's largest single industries, died at his Whittier home. He disposed of the company in 1945. Born 75 years ago at Denison, Iowa, Sievers came to California in 1910, becoming a citrus grower at Brea. He also was an early developer of the avocado business in that district.

John G. Whitney, Los Angeles, has been appointed vice president in charge of distributors for the North American Petroleum Company, Ltd., it was announced by David E. Jordan, president. He will have under his jurisdiction all distributors in the United States, Canada and abroad.

A. H. Curran
Schlumberger Well Surveying Corporation has announced the promotion of A. H. "Art" Curran to Long Beach District Manager. Mr. Curran will take over the duties of Mr. R. L. Forsythe.
Art Curran joined the Schlumberger organization when he returned from Army service in 1945. He graduated from the University of California in geology. About a year ago he was transferred from the Bakersfield area to Long Beach as field engineer.

Passing out cigars the other day was Fraser Macmillan, who is a business associate of his father, R. S. Macmillan, president of Macmillan Petroleum Corporation. His action was the result of his being the father of a 7-pound baby girl born at the Hollywood Presbyterian Hospital.

Friends of C. T. "Mickey" McGuire, Supt. of West Coast operations for Halliburton Oil Well Cementing Company, will be sorry to learn that he has been hospitalized for an indefinite period of time.

In line with the large increase in volume of business in 1949 and to insure even smoother operations in its accounting department, Lane-Wells has promoted three executives, according to D. S. Jeppson, vice president and controller. L. H. Ingle has been named assistant controller, a new position; Robert L. Walsh, chief accountant succeeding to Mr. Ingle's former position; and Walter H. Barinoff has been made chief cost and methods accountant.

Naming of Laurence Andrew as manager of General Petroleum Corporation's pipeline department has been announced by George Supple, vice president in charge of company pipelines. A number of other staff changes were made in this department. V. C. Larsen was appointed general superintendent, and H. T. Williams, northern division superintendent at Taft. C. W. House becomes southern division superintendent at Vernon.

Irving and Robert Dumm, Long Beach oil producers and oil tool manufacturers, have returned to California from a vacation tour in New York and other eastern points.

Outgoing 1949 Officers of Los Angeles Chapter of Nomads, including guest speaker for evening, are as follows. Left to right (seated): George Flanders, Earle Boggess, Lee Laird, Ted Forsyth, Fred Ripley. (Standing): Norman E. Yett, Continental Supply Company, Caracas, Venezuela, Guest Speaker; Earl Rees, Knight Templeton, John W. Rife and Jerry Engstrand.

Rocky Mountain NEWS

Colorado—Idaho—Montana—New Mexico—Utah—Wyoming—Western Canada

New Mexico

Delhi Oil Corp. of Dallas has sold its holdings in the Barker Creek field along the Colorado-New Mexico line in the San Juan Basin to El Paso Natural Gas Co. for a reported price of three million dollars cash, with a gas payment graduating from five cents per thousand for the first five years, six cents per thousand for the following five years and seven cents per thousand for the next five years. Plans are said to include construction of a gasoline plant in the field by El Paso.

Consummation of the transaction followed recent favorable action of the Federal Power Commission in granting El Paso's request for permission to lay a gas pipe line from the San Juan area to California.

Estimates of reserves at Barker Creek were placed as high as 100,000,000 cubic feet of gas daily for 20 years. The FPC is expected to make an early decision on approval of the Delhi sale.

Delhi Oil Corp. has several deep Pennsylvania gas wells on Barker Creek dome, which lies astraddle the Colorado-New Mexico line. One well, the Barker No. 2 on the Colorado side, was completed a year ago for a gauge of 113 million cubic feet per day. A previous well on the New Mexico side made 74 million cubic feet of gas.

El Paso wants to build a 451-mile long line carrying 165 million cubic feet per day to the coast, serving Arizona towns along the route with a total of 15 million cubic feet.

John Metzger, Colorado's attorney general, stated after the recent FPC hearing that the two states should work out an apportionment of the Barker Creek Dome gas. Metzger said Colorado needs a strong conservation act and severance tax on natural gas as well as oil. He observed that New Mexico expects to collect $3,500 a day from the severance tax on gas if the line to California is built.

Hal S. Bennett, chairman of the Utah Public Utilities Commission, also attended the Washington hearings and pointed out that Utah needs natural gas. Tight restrictions have been placed on the use of gas by both industrial and residential consumers, and Utah has been eyeing the San Juan Basin as a possible source of future fuel supply. Apparently reserves in the Church Buttes field of southwestern Wyoming are not as prolific as first supposed.

R. L. Forsythe

R. L. Forsythe has been promoted to Assistant Area Manager of Canada for the Schlumberger Well Surveying Corp., with headquarters in Calgary.

Russ Forsythe has been with Schlumberger since 1937 and Long Beach District Manager for the past 5 years. He is a graduate of the University of California in electrical engineering.

Reed Roller Bit Co. reported a total of 509 rigs operating in the booming Permian Basin of west Texas and New Mexico on Jan. 1, 1950.

Western Canada

Imperial Oil, Ltd., announced in Toronto recently plans for building a refinery at Winnipeg of about 10,000 bbls. per day capacity at a cost of roughly $10,000,000. G. L. Stewart, president, said the contract will be awarded shortly and completion is scheduled for May, 1951.

Increased refinery capacity together with movement of Alberta crude eastward by pipeline will mean lower petroleum product prices in the area served by the new facilities, Stewart said. The crude will be moved either by rail or branch pipeline from a take-off point on the Interprovincial line at Gretna, Manitoba.

Engineering studies for the new plant have been under way for some time and field work will begin as soon as weather conditions permit in the early spring. When in full operation the refinery will employ about 175 workers.

The first well drilled on the Crown reserve quarter section obtained by Tanner & Co. for $918,663 in an auction of Redwater acreage was brought into production recently by British-American Oil Co. The well flowed at the rate of 816 bbls. a day in a drillstem test in the D3, after acidizing with 2,000 gallons. The well was completed and placed on production while location was made for a second test. Several others are scheduled for 1950.

Cardiff Giant No. 1 drilling for Cardiff Edmonton Oil Syndicate

failed to find Devonian production at 4362 feet in the area four miles southwest of the Imperial Excelsior discovery, but tested a gas flow of more than 2,000,000 cubic feet per day in the Viking sand and Lower Cretaceous. It will be completed as a gas discovery for the new field.

Pointing to increased activity in the Peace River area were encouraging rumors of shows in the Imperial Magloire well drilling around 6,000 feet in the area seven miles southwest of the Imperial-Normandville discovery. A number of tests are planned in the northern area come spring.

Prospects of town lot drilling in booming Edmonton were heightened by spudding of a well three miles west of the city. The well is being drilled by California Standard and was last reported coring below 3150.

Western Canada Petroleum association has appointed G. W. Auxier, K. C., as executive vice president and managing director of the association, effective Feb. 1. Mr. Auxier, partner in an Edmonton law firm, will serve full time in the position. In announcing the appointment, Fred M. Graham, president of the association, said the new post was created in view of the growing importance of the petroleum and natural gas industry in western Canada, and the need of a full-time executive who "would be able to present the point of view of the industry as a whole."

Montana

While most Montana drilling operations were stymied by sub-zero weather, speculation turned to a fast lease play developing in a vast area of 25,000 square miles in the northeastern part of the state, where the huge Moosejaw Syncline which stretches southeastward from Saskatchewan into the Williston Basin of North Dakota.

The unexplored area is said to be larger than the entire productive area of many oil producing states. Yet in most of the area not a single hole has ever been drilled to the Paleozoic rocks.

North of the international boundary, there have been tremendous filings of Canadian crown lands involving most of southern Saskatchewan and southwestern Manitoba during the past two years. These filings come down as far south as the Montana border. Across the line in North Dakota, millions of acres have been leased in the North Dakota portion of the Williston Basin.

Leasing activity is especially pronounced in the Blood Creek Syncline, a virgin area where more than half a million acres have been blocked by Amerada, Continental and other majors. Some wildcatting is anticipated here in 1950.

Geologists have been encouraged by the known great thickness of possible source beds in the northeastern corner of Montana, the huge basin topography with possibilities of accumulation in stratigraphic traps or gentle reversals, and the known extreme porosity of some horizons.

In the scramble to get North Dakota acreage in the so-called "reef" play, dozens of firms have jumped

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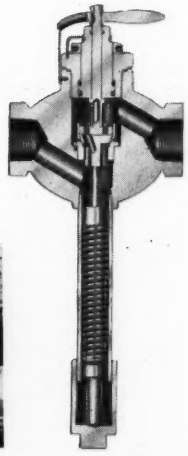

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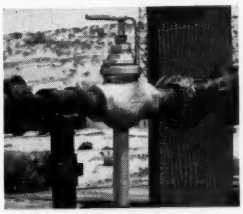

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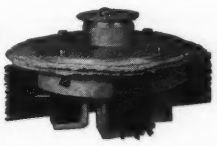

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clear across northeastern Montana, and lately have been rechecking this area so much closer to the reef production of southern Canada. It is also conjectured that some of the "strat tests" drilled on the east flank of the Williston Basin have turned up some interesting data so far not revealed.

One of the most interesting deep tests in Montana currently drilling is Texas-Pacific Coal & Oil Co.'s venture on the Chimney Butte structure in the heart of the Bull Mountain syncline in Musselshell county. The well was making hole past 7350 feet after topping the Ellis at 6810, and may be carried as deep as 10,000 feet if production is not found in higher zones.

General Petroleum's wildcat west of Dutton in Teton county is still testing on pump and getting small production of heavy oil, with water, from a zone at the top of Madison lime. The well was a failure in the Devonian.

Phillips Petroleum has abandoned the Rattlesnake Coulee venture in Toole county at 2238 feet, after finding sulfur water in the Madison lime below 2211.

Personal Mention

Merle E. Morton of Casper, chairman of the board of directors, Morton Oil Co., accompanied Mayor Tye Thomas of Newcastle on a flying trip to England, where they were met by his lordship, the mayor of Newcastle-on-Tyne. The event was celebrated with appropriate publicity. The two Wyoming oil men then went on a tour of the continent, planning to spend a few days in Paris as guests of the Schlumberger Well Surveying Corp.

Ohio Oil Co.'s new division geologist is Ralph E. Knipe, formerly of Terre Haute, Ind., who succeeds R. W. McCanne. The latter was transferred to Findlay, Ohio, as general manager in charge of production at the company's home office. Mr. Knipe formerly was division geologist for Ohio in the Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Ohio area. Harold H. Healy, division manager at Casper, also announced that Herman Brunt of Rawlins has been named superintendent of operations at the firm's new fields in the Sidney, Nebr. area.

Donald F. McMahon, new executive secretary for the Rocky Mountain Oil and Gas association in Casper, is making many friends in his new position—but still hasn't located a large enough house for himself, his wife and five children in the "oil capital of the Rockies." McMahon, before coming to the new post, served with the War Assets Administration in Denver and previously with a public utility firm in New Jersey.

The Rocky Mountain Oil and Gas association will hold its midwinter meeting of directors in Cheyenne Feb. 23. A. E. Stoddard, president of the Union Pacific railroad, will be guest speaker, and William Reinhardt, vice president in charge of Union Pacific oil development, is expected to attend.

Offices of C. H. Murphy & Co., were set up in the U. S. National Bank Bldg., Denver, on Feb. 1. C. C. Thomas, independent land man formerly with Superior Oil Co., has joined C. H. Murphy as division land manager. Phillip Wagner, division geologist, is assisted by Glen Fedderson, formerly with Shell Oil Co. Gene Norris, formerly with the U. S. Coast and Geodetic survey, has taken a position as draftsman.

Henry T. Gist, formerly with Fred M. Manning, Inc., has joined J. R. Lowell, Jr., to form the Lowell and Gist, Inc., drilling firm. Offices are at Colorado Springs. Lowell was formerly associated with Mickey Voltz in the drilling business.

Worth Garetson, 57, of Medicine Bow, prominent Wyoming drilling contractor, was killed in a car accident near Casper the night of Jan. 28. He was president of the Garetson-Knisely Co., drilling contractors, and had been overseeing operations at the Notches field west of Casper, where his firm was deepening a well for Trigood Oil Co. Mr. Garetson, who was well known in Rocky mountain oil circles, was a former mayor and deputy sheriff at Medicine Bow, and was active in the Shrine. His widow survives.

Raymond Larsen of the U. S. Geological Survey offices in Casper will review Rocky mountain oil and gas developments at the annual meeting of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers to be held in New York City Feb. 11-15. An outstanding program is planned.

Walter Miracle, head of Ideal Drilling Co., and Robert Fifer, formerly with National Supply Co., have established the Miracle-Fifer Drilling Co., for contract work in the Rocky mountains. Offices of the firm are in Casper.

Joe Swartz has been transferred by Sun Oil Co., from Evansville, Ind., to Billings, Mont., as district geologist for the firm.

Walter G. Davis, Casper lease broker and independent operator, has opened new offices in the Wyoming National Bank building in Casper. Joining his staff are John R. (Bob) Williams, formerly landman with Shell Oil Co., L. M. (Larry) Wert, formerly attorney and title man in Billings, and Miss Gwen Keif, formerly with the Wyoming state land office.

Frank A. Morgan, Jr., formerly geologist with Stanolind Oil and Gas Co., has opened offices as a consulting geologist in Casper. He has worked as geologist in the Rocky mountain area for the past six years, and formerly served with British-American.

Leonard Mercer, geologist with Sinclair Oil and Gas Co., has been transferred to the firm's Billings office from Casper. Sinclair has opened offices in Billings and is increasing its staff for Montana operations.

Wyoming

In Wyoming, interest focussed on the western and southern borders of the big Powder River Basin, which promise to be the most active areas in the state during the first

half of 1950. Three wells were going down rapidly in the Glenrock area, scene of the surprise discovery in the Muddy sand by Steelco Drilling Co. of Chicago late last year. These offsets were drilling between 5,000 and 6,000 feet in mid-January, and were not expected to hit the sand productive in the discovery well before 7,000 feet. It is anticipated they will drill deeper to test the Dakota and Lakota sands, to determine whether there are other oil horizons in the new Glenrock field. There is also some apprehension that the discovery well might have hit a "trap," since the Muddy sand is known to be rather "spotty." Some geologists were not even convinced that the discovery was in the Muddy, and it may take more drilling and correlation to determine the structure.

Meanwhile, Fred Manning was moving an all-electric rig into the northeastern part of the small town of Glenrock for the first town-lot drilling in Wyoming. The town council passed an ordinance specifying 40-acre spacing, but leaving the way open to closer spacing if production is found in other sands.

Continental Oil Co. was setting the pace along the western side of the Powder River Basin with several wells drilling and finding pay in the four zones established in the Sussex area of southern Johnson county. The firm's latest wildcat effort in Meadow Creek, four miles south of Sussex, recovered high gravity oil on a drillstem test of the Shannon sand around 4,000 feet and is drillng ahead to Wall Creek, Dakota and Lakota zones.

Elsewhere in the state, The California Co. had completed its second well in the new Borie field west of Cheyenne for a pump gauge of 138 barrels in 24 hours. Production is from the Muddy sand. The well is a one-half mile extension of the discovery made last year.

At Boone Dome in Natrona county, Ohio Oil Co. plugged its first deep test of the structure at 7518 feet without encountering any shows. For the last 4,000 feet the well was in a speckled shale of the Niobrara formation.

Pure Oil Co. had a costly fishing job at the deep Badwater wildcat in the northwest corner of Natrona county. Several stands of drill pipe were wedged in the hole which was bottomed at 14,154 feet. The venture was scheduled as a test of Cretaceous sands and there had been some talk of suspending operations before the fishing job.

Carter Oil Co. was drilling below 1,000 feet in granite wash at the interesting Immigrant Train venture in Fremont county, which is planned as a 6,000 foot Tensleep test. It is located on a unitized area northwest of the Crooks Gap-Spring Creek area.

Atlantic Refining Co. was nearing the Tensleep pay at 11,700 feet in its second Riverton well in Fremont county. The well is an extension south of Atlantic's Tensleep sand discovery of 1949.

Another super-deep failure was recorded when Mountain Fuel Supply Co. recovered salt water in a test of the Nugget sand between 14,526-14,646 feet. The well, No.

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7, in 17-16n-112w, Uinta county, was the first to go below the Dakota gas producing horizon in the field —on the theory an oil ring might be encountered below the gas dome. It is being plugged back for a gas completion in the Dakota sand around 13,000 feet.

The second Barnsdall-Ohio well at Lake Creek, Hot Springs county, made 25 barrels oil per hour, cutting two percent water, and is now testing on the pump. Production is coming from the Tensleep sand, with the well bottomed at 3802.

At South Sand Creek, Washakie county, Bill Tomberlin has abandoned his wildcat on a farmout from The Texas Co. Drilled to 6550 feet, the venture found the Frontier formation hard and tight.

Keniland Oil and Gas Co. has abandoned its wildcat east of the Salt Creek field in Natrona county at 7,902 feet. Some shows were logged in upper sands, but appeared too hard and tight for testing. It was reported that Keniland, backed by the Isbrandtsen steamship interests, may drill another venture one-half mile further to the east.

Amerada Petroleum Co. completed its No. 4 well in the Sage Spring Creek area, Natrona county, for a flowing gauge of 141 bbls. per day, 37.1 gravity, from the Dakota formation. Bottomed at 7524 feet, the well was a two mile stepout south of the Sage Spring Creek field, and indicated a separate pool, possibly of the trap variety. The sand was thicker and with greater porosity than found in Sage Spring Creek, although about 250 feet lower structurally. Further drilling is indicated in the area of the new find, which has added to the interest shown in this section of the Powder River Basin.

Colorado

Colorado's oil output hit an all-time record of 23,406,000 barrels in 1949, largely as the result of the new pipeline outlet for Rangely crude to refineries at Salt Lake. A total of 21 new producing oil wells and three producing gas wells were drilled in the state last year.

Colorado now has a total of 749 producing oil wells with an average yield of 85.6 barrels a day. This compares with the national average oil yield per well of 12 barrels per day computed by the Tulsa Oil and Gas Journal.

At year's end Colorado was credited with proven reserves of 800 billion cubic feet of natural gas (almost double the previous year's figure) and 296 million barrels of crude oil, a decrease of 23½ million barrels in the past year. Much of the big increase in gas reserves was credited to discoveries last year in the San Juan basin of southwestern Colorado.

Wildcat drillers fared badly in 1949. Out of 48 tests drilled, only three were producers. Yet the unfriendly Denver Post, commenting on President Truman's move to reduce or remove depletion allowances, renewed its editorial stand for imposition of severance taxes in Colorado. Most industry spokesmen predicted the drying up of risk capital for wildcat drilling in Colorado should the President's proposals be adopted, and the imposition of a severance tax would be only further discouragement.

Few wildcats are drilling in Colorado at this time.

Carter Oil Co. abandoned the venture at Fort Morgan at 6064 feet without logging any shows. The well in section 11-6n-55w topped Dakota at 5238, Fuson 5369, Lakota 5439, Morrison 5671 and Permian 5848.

R. E. Havenstrite suspended his second well at Oak Creek in Routt county after making only 720 feet of mud on a drill stem test from 6650-6755 feet. The well was bottomed at 7135. It was located only one-half mile southwest of the recent successful completion.

Some shows of gas were logged in the Timpas formation at the Adams Drilling Co.'s Fort Morgan test in 2-2n-57w, Morgan county. The well is planned as a Dakota test.

The Rocky Mountain Geological association plans to hold its annual dinner dance at the Park Hill Country club in Denver Friday evening, Feb. 17. Larry Brundall, Geophoto Services, Denver, is chairman of the committee on arrangements. The annual dinner-dance is one of the outstanding activities of the oil fraternity in Denver.

Rocky Mountain General

The drilling reports read more like weather reports as a succession of cold fronts swept down from Canada to envelop the Rocky mountain region during January. Phrases like "Shut down, weather" and "Snowed in" replaced the drilling statistics.

Montana operations were practically paralyzed with temperatures as low as 50 degrees below zero reported in some areas. With oil news running short, the editor of the Montana Oil and Mining Journal filled up space with a lengthy article explaining that the "chinooks" had failed to arrive to modify the climate this winter.

Fierce winds swept through Wyoming, but residents were thankful that the record-breaking blizzards of a year ago did not repeat.

In all of the Rocky mountain region, there were approximately 130 wells actively drilling as compared to a little over 200 a year ago.

Weather was not altogether to blame. The oil industry, having met urgent postwar needs, had settled back to normal operations. Many operators had simply shut down wells for the winter in the more rugged and isolated sections, thereby avoiding excessive winter drilling costs.

But seismograph crews continued to brave the icy elements in the more interesting areas, like the southern and western borders of the Powder River Basin in Wyoming, where a discovery late last year at Glenrock had set off a chain reaction of leasing and wildcatting plans.

Plans of major companies indicate that wildcatting programs will be carried on in the Rockies at near the record level of 1949, and leasing plays are spreading out further in all directions. For instance, the Boise, Idaho land office reported a quickened interest in filing for oil and gas leases in that state, mostly in the south central part. Lease plays have extended from western Utah into eastern Nevada. The Williston Basin of North Dakota,

almost solidly under lease, can look for some important wildcat tests in 1950 as the search continues for southern extensions of the Devonian.

Leasing is continuing throughout western Nebraska. It was stimulated in mid-January when Ohio Oil Co. completed its gas discovery in the Huntsman area near Sidney for a gauge of 54,000,000 cubic feet per day of natural gas, rating 1,100 BTU's. The gas had a high percentage of condensate. Production came from the Third Bench of the Dakota sand through perforations, and it was reported the sand section is 75 feet thick.

It was interesting to note that the production from this one Nebraska discovery surpassed the total output of Mountain Fuel Supply Co.'s Church Buttes field in southwestern Wyoming, which draws gas from the deep Dakota sandstone at around 13,000 feet. The Nebraska discovery was bottomed at 5195 feet. Several gas distributors, including Panhandle Eastern, are reported dickering with Ohio for the gas. Meanwhile Ohio is drilling on the first offset one and a half miles northwest of the discovery and is moving another rig to a third location three miles northwest of the discovery. Here are the locations:

Ohio Oil Co. No. 1 Cruise, 7-14n-49w, discovery well.

Ohio Oil Co. No. 1 O. A. Mather, 12-14n-50w, drilling 1500.

Ohio Oil Co. No. 1 Margaret Gurschke, 3-14n-49w—rigging up rotary.

The extent of the Huntsman gas structure is believed to be considerably larger than the Gurley oil pool six miles to the north, which Ohio established as the first commercial oil field in Nebraska last year.

Some confusion of names has resulted in the vast area of western Nebraska, southeastern Wyoming and northeastern Colorado, which has been known as the Julesburg Basin for many years. Denver publications attempted to apply the name "Denver Basin" to all of this region. But the Wyoming Geological association went on record recently recognizing the name "Julesburg Basin" for the whole region, designating "Denver low" and "Cheyenne low" for local parts of the Basin.

Keen interest in North Dakota and northeastern Montana was evidenced by large turnouts of geologists at Denver and Casper to hear lectures by Dr. Wilson M. Laird, state geologist for North Dakota, on the subject of the stratigraphy of his state. If the geologists expected Dr. Laird to "spill any dope" on well logs of three "tight hole" stratigraphic trap tests drilled in his state last year, they were disappointed. The speaker said he was not at liberty to reveal the information. His talk, therefore, had to be confined to studies of several wells drilled in and around the state in prior years, which gave a rather inconclusive picture of formations in North Dakota. Nevertheless, Dr. Laird expressed confidence that oil would be found in North Dakota, since fairly thick, porous sections of Madison, Devonian and Cretaceous were indicated by some wells.

Marketing problems besetting independent producers in the Mush Creek, Skull Creek, Fiddler Creek areas of Weston county are reflected in the move of a group of operators to form an independent refinery organization. The group, headed by L. M. York, pioneer developer of the Mush Creek field, filed articles of incorporation with the Wyoming secretary of state listing capital assets of $5,000,000. York said the group plans to build a modern oil refinery in Newcastle and develop a marketing organization for the independent producers. He pointed out that the light green, high gravity crude produced in the three fields near Newcastle is one of the best grades of crude produced in the Rocky mountain region, yet, due to marketing inequities, the operators are forced to absorb excessive pipeline charges which amount to price cuts of 25 cents a barrel under the posted price of $2.65.

Bone of contention is the new pipeline built from the fields to Lance Creek. The independents contend that the pipeline firm had agreed to cut the tariffs once the line was filled to capacity of 10,000 barrels per day. The volume of oil was delivered, but the promised rate reduction did not materialize. It is anticipated a hearing will be held on the issue sometime in the near future.

Stanolind Oil Purchasing Co. met the black oil price cut in Wyoming fields initiated by Ohio Oil Co. in late December. Effective Jan. 12, Stanolind posted listed Byron and Garland fields in Big Horn county, Wyo., at $1.50 per barrel. A flat posting was also made at $1.40 per barrel for oil purchased from Torchlight (heavy), Kirby Creek, Hamilton Dome, Little Buffalo Basin, Gooseberry, Circle Ridge, Black Mountain and Maverick Springs.

Oil from each of the fields priced at $1.40 per bbl. is less than 24 gravity. There were no changes in the gravity listing of fields with gravity above 24, which include Frannie, Gebo, Grass Creek (heavy), Pilot Butte, Steamboat, Torchlight (light), Winkleman, Worland and Zimmerman Butte. These are still listed on the Wyoming Heavy High Sulphur crude oil schedule.

The reduction in field prices is expected to lead the market increases for some black oils that have been shut in for several months. Some improvement was noted in the Oregon Basin field following Ohio's reduction of posted prices last December, and Wyoming production generally is ahead of the figure of a year ago at this time. Total output has been running between 140,000 and 150,000 bbls. per day.

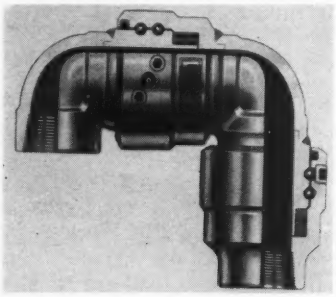
ICI Represents P.-B. in Rocky Mountain Area

ICI Service is now stocking Patterson-Ballagh oil field specialties in the Rocky Mountain area, according to Bob Harcus, executive vice-president and general manager of International Cementers, Inc.

P-B wipers, bumpers, wire line guides and stabilizers, production products, etc.—the entire P-B line—will be available through each of ICI's service points in the Rocky Mountain area.

All-Flex Ball Bearing Swivel Pipe Coupling Announced by Gil-Lair Products

Specifically designed to handle the conveying of fluids under high pressure through a pipe that swivels or rotates a full 360 degrees in all planes . . . an improved ball-bearing swivel pipe coupling has been announced by Gil-Lair Products, Inc. of Pasadena, California.



According to the manufacturer, this precision-built unit is one of the most compact high-pressure swivel pipe couplings on the market. It is streamlined throughout, has no projection and is free from bolted flanges, threaded sleeves, locking rings and keys. The rotating members of the coupling are held tightly together with two sets of ball-bearings operating in flame-hardened and ground ball races. The coupling is designed for an average speed of rotation not to exceed 60 rpm. The patented ALL-FLEX double, metal-backed packer assembly, which renders the unit pressure tight, consists of two packers each being comprised of a "T" shaped metal backer to which a pair of synthetic rubber lips are vulcanized and bonded. Each backer functions in its own individual chamber. The edges of the metal backer flare outward against the walls of the packer recess forming a full metallic seal under all pressures. This combination synthetic and metallic packer seals all pressures from vacuum to 12,000 lbs. per sq. in. The full pressure range is automatically covered without manual adjustment of the packing.

All high pressure swivel pipe couplings are made of steel. The low pressure couplings are made of aluminum, bronze, malleable iron or steel. They are available in a wide range of sizes, and for working temperatures up to 225 degrees F. The facilities of the company's Engineering Department are available to industry for developing couplings for high speed rotation, low torque and special industrial applications.

Complete information on the ALL-FLEX Ball Bearing Swivel Pipe Coupling for application in the petroleum industry, the fields of electronics, aviation, railroads, chemical and food processing plants is available from Gil-Lair Products, Inc., 81 Masonic Court, Pasadena 3, California.

Fluor Corporation Adding Modern Engineering Building

As part of the Los Angeles main plant expansion program, The Fluor Corporation, Ltd., engineers, constructors, and manufacturers for the oil, gas, chemical, and allied industries has started work on a new engineering building. Details of the modern structure, which is a part of the modernizing plans at the 27-acre plant, were disclosed by J. S. Fluor, Jr., executive vice-president.

The two-story air-conditioned building will have 9200 sq. ft. of floor space, including a full basement. It will be constructed of pre-cast reinforced concrete.

Basement facilities will provide a mailing room, specification room, and a printing room with adequate space for three blueprint machines. The print machines will handle all blueprints for engineering and drafting. Also in the basement will be a supply room and a vault for safe storage of plans and tracings.

First floor plans call for two drafting rooms with space for 30 men each, and 17 offices for project engineers.

The second floor will provide three drafting rooms, accommodating 30 men each, and eight offices for project engineers. A conference room will also be located on the second floor.

Fluor personnel directly connected with construction plans include George W. Meyer, manager of lands and buildings, coordinator, and Fred Hopkins, project manager.

Macco Corporation Announces New Pipe Line Division

John MacLeod, president of Macco Corporation recently announced that Signal Pipe Line Corp. of Long Beach California, a wholly-owned subsidiary has been merged with the parent company, operating as the Pipe Line Division. B. M. Laulhere, Jr., continues his previous capacity as manager.

The purpose of the merger, according to MacLeod, is to extend the Company's pipe line services beyond its present scope. It is felt that this can be accomplished much more effectively by performing the utility, natural gas and oil pipe line construction work as a division of Macco Corporation.

When the twenty-year old Signal Pipe Line Construction Co., was purchased by Signal Pipe Line Corporation last February, the present merger was being given serious consideration, said MacLeod. The interim operation has indicated the practicability of the merger.

Operations are continuing from offices at Signal Hill, El Monte, Colton and Palm Village. Expansion plans call for additional offices at several strategic locations.

Macco is engaged primarily in oil field and general construction work and throughout its divisions

also produces and sells oil well drilling fluids, lumber and crushed rock. Through other subsidiaries and affiliates it also engages in dredging along the Pacific Coast and oil field construction in foreign countries.

Allied Supply Appointed By Gil-Lair

Gil-Lair Products, Inc., manufacturers of the All Flex ball bearing swivel pipe coupling, have announced the appointment of the Allied Supply Company, 2068 E. 37th Street, Los Angeles, as their stocking distributor in Southern California. Stocks are available at Allied for the industrial and petroleum industry in all styles of low pressure and high pressure steel swivel joints, as well as steel rotary hose, steel cementing and circulating hose, circulating heads and non-spin mud guns.

The Allied Supplied Company has an enviable record of service in Southern California, and a history associated with the petroleum industry. In 1932 the Company was known as Tunnell, Wood & Neilan, suppliers of pipe, valves, fittings, and numerous specialty items. In 1940 Mr. J. E. Aderhold and Mr. G. Nesheim, founders of the Union Pipe & Supply Company purchased the interest of Wood and Neilan, merging the two companies and changing the name to the Allied Supply Company. This move enhanced the nationally known quality products of the Company such as Powell Valves, Tube-Turn Welding Fittings, Bethlehem Pipe, National Transit Pumps, and Ashcroft Pressure Gauges.

The keynote of Allied's growth has been service and quality for the customer, with men trained to answer questions and offer help on engineering problems with respect to specialty items. Their ceaseless endeavor along these lines have led to Allied's high regard in Southern California industry.

Their appointment by Gil-Lair Products as a stocking distributor of the All Flex swivels, adds another top quality item to Allied Supply Company's lines.

Howard Supply Company Opens New Warehouse

Announcement of the completion of a new modern steel warehouse located one block south of their present warehouse at Oakland, California, has just been made by D. S. Bradbury, Vice President in charge of operations for Northern California.

The warehouse was constructed on a tract of industrial property acquired from the Santa Fe Railroad Company. Construction of the new warehouse, according to Mr. Bradbury, was necessary in order to have sufficient room to stock the many new lines of refinery and industrial supplies that the company has added. The company acquired sufficient land for additional expansion if required at a later date.

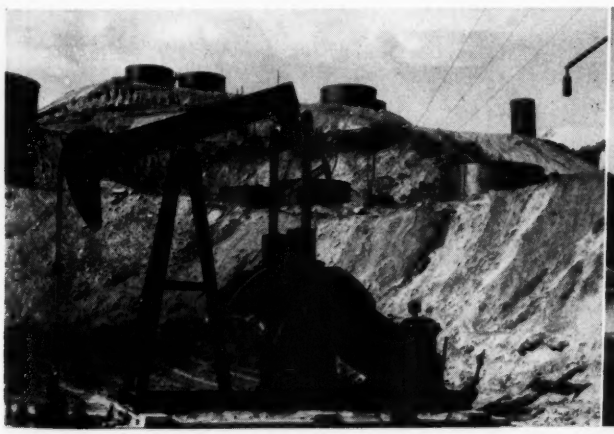
Newhall-Potrero Drilling Job Starts

Some 600 ft. southwest of its Ferguson No. 6 producer, General Exploration Company has started No. 7 on Sec. 36-4n-17w in the Newhall-Potrero area. The No. 6 was completed at 7295 ft. for 500 barrels of 33 gravity oil and 300,000 cubic ft. of gas daily. Barnsdall Oil Company's Newhall Corporation-Wolfson No. 2-5 on Sec. 26-4n-17w is drilling at 11,300 ft.

Lufkin Establishes On-the Spot Headquarters

V. J. (Vic) Fawcett, of Lufkin Foundry & Machine Co., Los Angeles, announced the "On the Spot" field headquarters operation of Lufkin Foundry & Machine Company in the Placerita area.

"Recently, because of the need for expediency in serving operators in the Placerita area, Lufkin arranged to put a mobile field office on the location," Mr. Fawcett said. "We at Lufkin have been serving the oil industry with a wide variety of pumping units for a number of years and it is easy for us to realize the importance of the availability of trained personnel able to advise on matters important to selecting the right equipment to put a well into production," stated Mr. Fawcett. "By utilizing a trailer unit complete with all necessary office facilities, it is easy for Lufkin to move into an area as need arises. This type of operation fits in with a sales policy which is based upon Service to Sell, and Service after the Sale," according to Mr. Fawcett.



Lufkin unit in service for Rothschild Oil Co., Placerita area.

Al McConville, Lufkin representative, stands by at Lufkin Field Headquarters in the Placerita area.

LAUGH THIS OFF!!

Teacher: "What tense is, I am beautiful?"

Little Boy: "Past."

Manager (to waiter in swanky restaurant): "Go over there and make that fellow understand he must take that napkin off his neck. But be tactful."

Waiter (to customer): "Shave or haircut, sir?"

The new negro cook arrived the morning after she had been hired with four little pickaninnies trailing after her.

"But I thought you told me you were not married," said her employer.

"Ah ain't, ma'am, but they's just to show that ah ain't been neglected, either," answered the cook.

Teacher: "Who can name a liquid that won't freeze."

Johnny: "Hot water."

Tall, very thin patient: "Well, doctor, how do I stand?"

Doctor: "Goodness knows—It's a miracle."

Bad luck: A wind that blows a cinder in your eye and a girl's dress up at the same time.

Teacher: "Name five things that contain milk."

Smarty: "Butter, cheese, ice cream, and two cows."

"I suttingly hopes I's sick!" groaned Rastus.

"I'd sho hate to feel lak dis when I'se well."

"What model is your car?"

"This car ain't no model—it's a horrible example."

Sunday School Teacher: "Why was Solomon the wisest man in the world?"

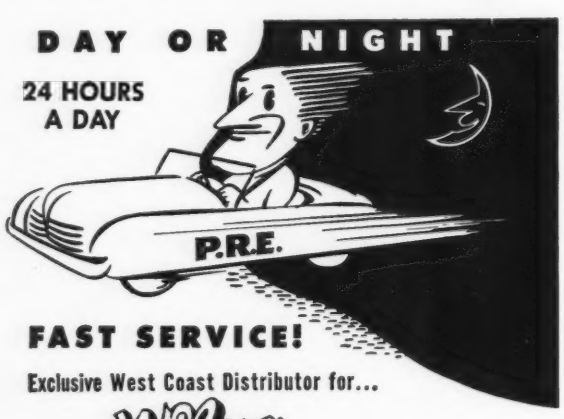
Pupil: "Because he had so many wives to advise him."

One thing worse than a quitter is a fellow who is afraid to begin.

Old Jess, a weather-beaten guide, and his tenderfoot companion were camping out in rattlesnake country. The tenderfoot spoke:

"Jess, is there any other cure for snake-bite besides whiskey?"

Jess looked up with a grin and drawled: "Who cares, son, who cares?"



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